MYSTIC...THE MOST EERIE STORIES EVER TOLD!

MYSTIC

HAVE YOU THE NERVE TO READ...

THIS [illegible] OF [illegible]!"

I DARED TO SIP "THE FORBIDDEN DRINK!"

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN "THE MAN WITH NO FACE!"

IF A STRANGE MAN EVER ASKS YOU TO VISIT THE DARK DUNGEON DON'T GO!!! UNLESS YOU'RE TIRED OF LIVING!

MAY 10¢

WAS IT SHEER MADNESS... OR DID THE DARK DUNGEON REALLY EXIST??? AND WHO WOULD BE ITS NEXT VICTIM???

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THE Black Dungeon

A MYSTIC MASTERPIECE!

TO KNOW THE SECRET OF THE BLACK DUNGEON IS TO *DIE!*

WHAT WAS THE TERRIBLE SECRET LOCKED BEHIND THE DOORS OF THE TOMB? WHAT STRANGE POWER COMPELLED ME TO OPEN THE DOORS AND FREE THAT WHICH CRIED FROM WITHIN FOR RELEASE?

THESE ARE THE FRIGHTENING EVENTS WHICH LED TO THE MONSTROUS THING WITHIN THE TOMB...

8129

YOU HAVE NEVER READ A TALE LIKE THIS BEFORE...AND YOU NEVER WILL AGAIN!

FOR THE TERROR OF THE BLACK DUNGEON CAN BE KNOWN TO A HUMAN BEING ONLY *ONCE* IN A LIFETIME!

WHERE SHALL I BEGIN MY STORY..A STORY THAT ENDED IN HORROR AND SUDDEN, VIOLENT DEATH! PERHAPS I SHOULD BEGIN WITH THE NIGHT I RESCUED POOR OTTO...

HERE, YOU BOYS... GO HOME! LEAVE THAT POOR MAN ALONE!

YAAHH! UGLY FACE! UGLY FACE!

HAVE YOU NOTHING BETTER TO DO THAN TO PERSECUTE SOMEONE LESS FORTUNATE THAN YOURSELVES? GO AWAY BEFORE I TAKE A BROOM TO YOU!

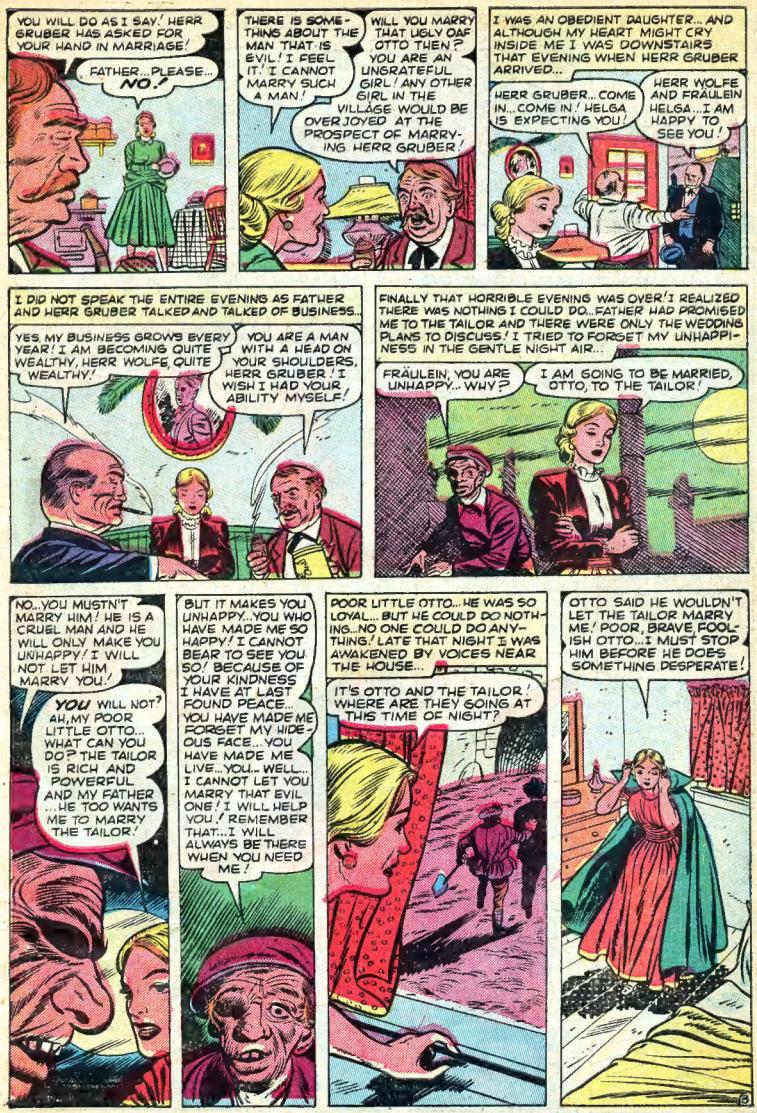
THE POOR LITTLE MAN LAY HUDDLED ON THE GROUND WHERE HE HAD FALLEN! I FELT AN IMMENSE PITY FOR THIS POOR CREATURE...

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

YES, THANK YOU! I AM NOT HURT!

ALL NAMES AND PLACES IN THESE TRUE-TO-LIFE STORIES ARE FICTITIOUS
ANY SIMILARITY BETWEEN ACTUAL PERSONS OR PLACES AND THOSE USED IN THESE STORIES IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL

WHY DO YOU HIDE YOUR FACE THEN... YOU MUST BE HURT! HERE, LET ME SEE...
NO, FRÄULEIN, NO! DO NOT LOOK AT MY FACE!
SLOWLY HE REMOVED HIS HANDS FROM HIS FACE AND I FELT MYSELF FLINCH! IT WAS AN INCREDIBLY GROTESQUE, MISSHAPEN FACE...
YOU SEE... I AM NOT VERY PRETTY! I SEE YOU FLINCH AT THE SIGHT OF ME! BUT NO MATTER, I AM USED TO IT... IT IS THE SAME EVERYWHERE! EVERYWHERE I GO I AM DRIVEN OUT BECAUSE OF MY HIDEOUSNESS ... AND I WILL GO NOW!
I DON'T KNOW WHY I DID IT... BUT I STOPPED HIS WORDS AND SAID...
NO... PLEASE... YOU CAN STAY HERE! WE NEED SOMEONE TO HELP AROUND THE PLACE AND THERE IS A ROOM YOU CAN HAVE!
FROM THAT DAY ON OTTO BECAME ALMOST MY SLAVE, FOLLOWING ME EVERYWHERE I WENT, DOING THINGS FOR ME, HELPING ME AT EVERY STEP, AND BECAUSE MY FAMILY WAS WELL-RESPECTED THE TOWNSPEOPLE BEGAN TO ACCEPT OTTO..
THE PEOPLE DO NOT STARE AT ME WHEN I AM WITH YOU, FRÄULEIN HELGA!
IT IS BECAUSE THEY ARE BEGINNING TO SEE HOW GOOD AND GENTLE YOU REALLY ARE!
IN OUR WHOLE VILLAGE THERE WAS ONLY ONE PERSON I DISLIKED... THE TAILOR... THE WEALTHIEST MAN IN TOWN! THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT HIM THAT FRIGHTENED ME... AS THOUGH HE WERE A THING OF EVIL! ONE DAY AS WE PASSED HIS SHOP HE STOPPED ME...
FRÄULEIN HELGA.. GIVE ME A MOMENT TO CLOSE MY SHOP AND I WILL CARRY YOUR BUNDLES FOR YOU...
DO NOT TROUBLE YOURSELF, HERR GRUBER, OTTO IS ALL THE HELP I NEED!
TAILOR
CAFE
THEN DO ME THE HONOR OF STOPPING FOR A MOMENT.. I HAVE SOMETHING TO SHOW YOU!
BEFORE I COULD PROTEST HE HAD LED ME INTO HIS SHOP! AT MY SIDE I COULD FEEL OTTO'S THOUGHTS URGING ME NOT TO STAY...
THIS DRESS IS A PRESENT FOR YOU, FRÄULEIN! IN IT YOU WILL BE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL IN THE VILLAGE!
IT IS A LOVELY DRESS, HERR GRUBER...
.. BUT MY FATHER WOULD NEVER PERMIT ME TO ACCEPT SUCH AN EXPENSIVE GIFT! COME, OTTO, WE MUST GET BACK HOME! GOOD-BYE, HERR GRUBER!
GOOD-BYE, FRÄULEIN, WE WILL MEET AGAIN SOON!
I DID NOT TAKE HIS WORDS SERIOUSLY BUT THAT IS WHERE I UNDERESTIMATED THE MAN! THAT SAME EVENING WHILE I WAS PREPARING DINNER MY FATHER CAME INTO THE KITCHEN...
I WANT YOU TO LOOK YOUR PRETTIEST TONIGHT, HELGA, HERR GRUBER, THE TAILOR, IS COMING TO CALL ON YOU!
PAPA... YOU CAN'T MEAN THAT! I WILL NOT COME DOWNSTAIRS AT ALL IF ME IS HERE!


YOU WILL DO AS I SAY! HERR GRUBER HAS ASKED FOR YOUR HAND IN MARRIAGE!
FATHER...PLEASE... NO!
THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT THE MAN THAT IS EVIL! I FEEL IT! I CANNOT MARRY SUCH A MAN!
WILL YOU MARRY THAT UGLY OAF OTTO THEN? YOU ARE AN UNGRATEFUL GIRL! ANY OTHER GIRL IN THE VILLAGE WOULD BE OVERJOYED AT THE PROSPECT OF MARRYING HERR GRUBER!
I WAS AN OBEDIENT DAUGHTER... AND ALTHOUGH MY HEART MIGHT CRY INSIDE ME I WAS DOWNSTAIRS THAT EVENING WHEN HERR GRUBER ARRIVED...
HERR GRUBER... COME IN... COME IN! HELGA IS EXPECTING YOU!
HERR WOLFE AND FRÄULEIN HELGA... I AM HAPPY TO SEE YOU!
I DID NOT SPEAK THE ENTIRE EVENING AS FATHER AND HERR GRUBER TALKED AND TALKED OF BUSINESS...
YES, MY BUSINESS GROWS EVERY YEAR! I AM BECOMING QUITE WEALTHY, HERR WOLFE, QUITE WEALTHY!
YOU ARE A MAN WITH A HEAD ON YOUR SHOULDERS, HERR GRUBER! I WISH I HAD YOUR ABILITY MYSELF!
FINALLY THAT HORRIBLE EVENING WAS OVER! I REALIZED THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO...FATHER HAD PROMISED ME TO THE TAILOR AND THERE WERE ONLY THE WEDDING PLANS TO DISCUSS! I TRIED TO FORGET MY UNHAPPINESS IN THE GENTLE NIGHT AIR...
FRÄULEIN, YOU ARE UNHAPPY... WHY?
I AM GOING TO BE MARRIED, OTTO, TO THE TAILOR!
NO...YOU MUSTN'T MARRY HIM! HE IS A CRUEL MAN AND HE WILL ONLY MAKE YOU UNHAPPY! I WILL NOT LET HIM MARRY YOU!
YOU WILL NOT? AH, MY POOR LITTLE OTTO... WHAT CAN YOU DO? THE TAILOR IS RICH AND POWERFUL AND MY FATHER ...HE TOO WANTS ME TO MARRY THE TAILOR!
BUT IT MAKES YOU UNHAPPY...YOU WHO HAVE MADE ME SO HAPPY! I CANNOT BEAR TO SEE YOU SO! BECAUSE OF YOUR KINDNESS I HAVE AT LAST FOUND PEACE... YOU HAVE MADE ME FORGET MY HIDEOUS FACE...YOU HAVE MADE ME LIVE...YOU... WELL... I CANNOT LET YOU MARRY THAT EVIL ONE! I WILL HELP YOU! REMEMBER THAT...I WILL ALWAYS BE THERE WHEN YOU NEED ME!
POOR LITTLE OTTO... HE WAS SO LOYAL... BUT HE COULD DO NOTHING...NO ONE COULD DO ANYTHING! LATE THAT NIGHT I WAS AWAKENED BY VOICES NEAR THE HOUSE...
IT'S OTTO AND THE TAILOR! WHERE ARE THEY GOING AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?
OTTO SAID HE WOULDN'T LET THE TAILOR MARRY ME! POOR, BRAVE, FOOLISH OTTO...I MUST STOP HIM BEFORE HE DOES SOMETHING DESPERATE!

I FOLLOWED THEM, KEEPING AT A DISTANCE WHERE THEY COULD NOT SEE ME! OTTO LED THE TAILOR THROUGH THE STREETS OUTSIDE OF THE TOWN AND TO THE VILLAGE GRAVEYARD! I FELT MY BLOOD RUN COLD INSIDE OF ME!
OH, MY POOR OTTO! WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO FOR ME?
HOW MUCH FURTHER? I'M GETTING TIRED!
ONLY A LITTLE WAY NOW! YOU WILL NOT BE SORRY THAT YOU CAME!
OTTO LED HIM FURTHER INTO THE GRAVEYARD AND IT WAS ALL I COULD DO TO KEEP UP WITH THEM! THE BRIGHT LIGHT OF THE MOON CAST EERIE SHADOWS OVER THE GRAVES...
IT IS THERE IN THAT MAUSOLEUM!
WHY, THAT IS MY FAMILY'S BURIAL VAULT!
THAT IS WHY I CAME TO YOU! IT IS ONLY FAIR THAT WHAT I HAVE FOUND SHOULD BELONG MOSTLY TO YOU!
STOP WASTING TIME WITH TALK! GET THAT POOR OPEN!
THEY'RE GOING INSIDE!
THEY LEFT THE DOOR OPEN AND I HID MYSELF AT ONE SIDE WHERE I COULD SEE WHAT WENT ON INSIDE! MY HEART WAS BEATING SO LOUD I WAS AFRAID THEY WOULD HEAR!
THERE'S GOLD AND JEWELS UNDER THE FLOOR! I SAW THEM MYSELF!
SOME OF MY ANCESTORS MUST HAVE BURIED THEM HERE, HERE...ONE SIDE... LET ME DIG!
OTTO WAS STANDING BEHIND THE TAILOR AND WHILE I WATCHED IN HORROR, I SAW HIM RAISE HIS SHOVEL ABOVE HIS HEAD...
BUT SOME INNER INSTINCT MUST HAVE WARNED THE TAILOR FOR...
SO THIS IS YOUR GAME!
OH!
STUPID UGLY ONE! DID YOU THINK I BELIEVED YOUR SILLY LITTLE STORY!

I WAS FROZEN WITH TERROR! I TRIED TO SCREAM BUT NO SOUND CAME FROM MY LIPS AS THE TAILOR HIT OTTO AGAIN AND AGAIN WITH THE SHOVEL!

YOU HAVE BEEN IN MY WAY A LONG TIME! NOW I WILL BE RID OF YOU ONCE AND FOR ALL!

LEAVING OTTO A CRUMPLED HEAP ON THE FLOOR THE TAILOR RUSHED UP THE STEPS TO WHERE I WAS FROZEN TO THE SPOT FROM SHEER HORROR...

HELGA! YOU SAID...WELL, NO MATTER...I HAVE WAYS TO SEE THAT YOU SHALL NEVER TELL WHAT YOU SAW!

YOU CAN'T LEAVE OTTO TO DIE IN THERE! HE IS STILL ALIVE!

OH, CAN'T I? HE WOULD HAVE DONE THE SAME TO ME!

HE GRABBED HOLD OF ME AND FORCED ME TO RUN WITH HIM! AND AS WE RAN WE HEARD OTTO'S VOICE RISING FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE MAUSOLEUM LIKE A VOICE FROM A GRAVE! IT FOLLOWED US ON OUR TERROR STRICKEN FLIGHT!

PLEASE...LET ME GO BACK! HE IS STILL ALIVE!

SHUT UP...AND RUN! WE MUST LEAVE THIS PLACE!

YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS... DO YOU HEAR ME, TAILOR...

BUT WE COULDN'T RUN FAST ENOUGH TO ESCAPE THE SOUND OF OTTO'S VOICE...

I WILL PROTECT HER FROM YOU ALWAYS... YOU WILL NEVER ESCAPE ME!

I STRUGGLED TO BREAK AWAY BUT HIS HOLD ON MY ARM WAS TOO STRONG! THEN THE WORDS THAT STOPPED MY STRUGGLES ENTIRELY!

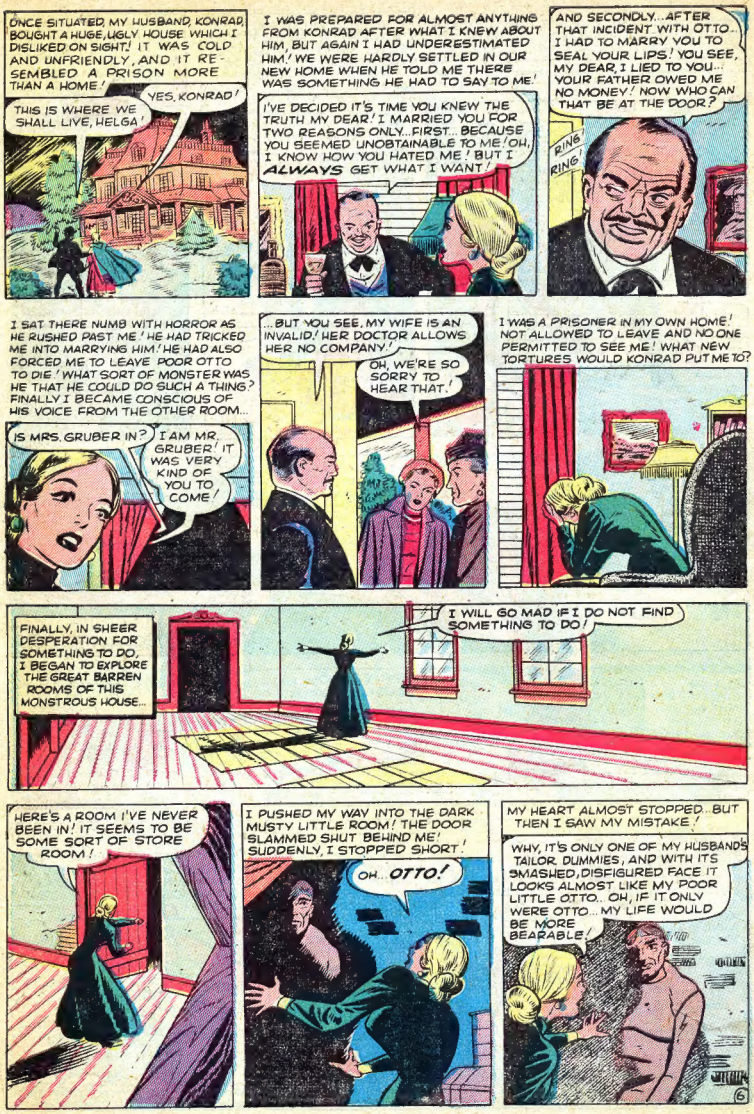
LISTEN TO ME! YOUR FATHER OWES ME MONEY... THAT IS WHY HE AGREED TO OUR MARRIAGE!

FATHER WOULD NOT LET ME MARRY YOU FOR ANY AMOUNT OF MONEY! WHEN HE HEARS...

IF YOU SO MUCH AS SAY A WORD OF THIS I SHALL TELL PEOPLE YOU AND YOUR FATHER PLANNED TO KILL ME TO KEEP FROM PAYING ME... AND WHO DO YOU THINK THEY WILL BELIEVE... YOU AND YOUR UGLY FRIEND... OR ME?

YOU WOULD DO THAT?

BUT I KNEW HE WOULD DO EVERYTHING HE SAID! THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO...SO A WEEK LATER WE WERE MARRIED AND IN LESS THAN A MONTH WE WERE ON A SHIP HEADED FOR THE UNITED STATES!


ONCE SITUATED, MY HUSBAND, KONRAD, BOUGHT A HUGE, UGLY HOUSE WHICH I DISLIKED ON SIGHT! IT WAS COLD AND UNFRIENDLY, AND IT RESEMBLED A PRISON MORE THAN A HOME!
YES, KONRAD!
THIS IS WHERE WE SHALL LIVE, HELGA!
I WAS PREPARED FOR ALMOST ANYTHING FROM KONRAD AFTER WHAT I KNEW ABOUT HIM, BUT AGAIN I HAD UNDERESTIMATED HIM! WE WERE HARDLY SETTLED IN OUR NEW HOME WHEN HE TOLD ME THERE WAS SOMETHING HE HAD TO SAY TO ME!
I'VE DECIDED IT'S TIME YOU KNEW THE TRUTH MY DEAR! I MARRIED YOU FOR TWO REASONS ONLY...FIRST... BECAUSE YOU SEEMED UNOBTAINABLE TO ME! OH, I KNOW HOW YOU HATED ME! BUT I ALWAYS GET WHAT I WANT!
AND SECONDLY...AFTER THAT INCIDENT WITH OTTO.. I HAD TO MARRY YOU TO SEAL YOUR LIPS! YOU SEE, MY DEAR, I LIED TO YOU - YOUR FATHER OWED ME NO MONEY! NOW WHO CAN THAT BE AT THE DOOR?
RING RING
I SAT THERE NUMB WITH HORROR AS HE RUSHED PAST ME! HE HAD TRICKED ME INTO MARRYING HIM! HE HAD ALSO FORCED ME TO LEAVE POOR OTTO TO DIE! WHAT SORT OF MONSTER WAS HE THAT HE COULD DO SUCH A THING? FINALLY I BECAME CONSCIOUS OF HIS VOICE FROM THE OTHER ROOM...
IS MRS. GRUBER IN?
I AM MR. GRUBER! IT WAS VERY KIND OF YOU TO COME!
...BUT YOU SEE, MY WIFE IS AN INVALID! HER DOCTOR ALLOWS HER NO COMPANY!
OH, WE'RE SO SORRY TO HEAR THAT!
I WAS A PRISONER IN MY OWN HOME! NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE AND NO ONE PERMITTED TO SEE ME! WHAT NEW TORTURES WOULD KONRAD PUT ME TO?
FINALLY, IN SHEER DESPERATION FOR SOMETHING TO DO, I BEGAN TO EXPLORE THE GREAT BARREN ROOMS OF THIS MONSTROUS HOUSE...
I WILL GO MAD IF I DO NOT FIND SOMETHING TO DO!
HERE'S A ROOM I'VE NEVER BEEN IN! IT SEEMS TO BE SOME SORT OF STORE ROOM!
I PUSHED MY WAY INTO THE DARK MUSTY LITTLE ROOM! THE DOOR SLAMMED SHUT BEHIND ME! SUDDENLY, I STOPPED SHORT!
OH.. OTTO!
MY HEART ALMOST STOPPED.. BUT THEN I SAW MY MISTAKE!
WHY, IT'S ONLY ONE OF MY HUSBAND'S TAILOR DUMMIES, AND WITH ITS SMASHED, DISFIGURED FACE IT LOOKS ALMOST LIKE MY POOR LITTLE OTTO.. OH, IF IT ONLY WERE OTTO.. MY LIFE WOULD BE MORE BEARABLE!
6

AND THEN I HAD AN IDEA! A SILLY IDEA PERHAPS... BUT I WAS SO LONELY... SO DESPERATE FOR SOMETHING TO DO I CLUTCHED AT ANYTHING TO MAKE MY LIFE A LITTLE MORE BEARABLE!

YOU LOOK LIKE MY POOR LITTLE OTTO...THEREFORE YOU **SHALL** BE HIM! I SHALL PRETEND YOU ARE HIM... AND TALK TO YOU...AND...AND I CAN MAKE CLOTHES FOR YOU... WHY, IT WILL BE JUST AS THOUGH I HAD OTTO BACK!

MY EMPTY DAYS WERE NOW FILLED WITH ACTIVITY! I MADE AN ENTIRE WARDROBE FOR THE DUMMY...

DO YOU LIKE YOUR NEW SUIT, OTTO? FEW MEN HAVE SUCH A WARDROBE AS YOU!

EVEN THE HORRIBLE HOUSE NO LONGER SEEMED LIKE A PRISON BECAUSE I HAD NO DESIRE TO LEAVE! EACH DAY I SPENT IN THE STORE ROOM, I WAS HAPPY AND IT WAS NOT LONG BEFORE KONRAD NOTICED THE CHANGE IN ME...

YOU ARE ALWAYS SMILING NOW, HELGA, WHAT IS YOUR SECRET?

IT IS ONLY BECAUSE I HAVE BECOME MORE USED TO THIS HOUSE NOW, KONRAD!

I SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE SUBTLE IN MY NEW HAPPINESS, BUT I HAD FORGOTTEN THAT KONRAD WOULD NOT PERMIT ME TO BE HAPPY...

YOU ARE TOO GAY! ARE YOU SURE YOU HAVE NOT FOUND ANOTHER MAN? I DO NOT RELISH BEING TRICKED!

BE REASONABLE, KONRAD...YOU KNOW I NEVER LEAVE THE HOUSE!

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING! TELL ME WHO IT IS THAT MAKES YOU HAPPY OR I'LL BEAT IT OUT OF YOU!

THERE IS NO ONE... PLEASE, KONRAD... PLEASE!

BUT KONRAD WAS LIKE AN ENRAGED BEAST! HE HIT ME AGAIN AND AGAIN UNTIL I FELL IN A HELPLESS HEAP AT HIS FEET...

THAT IS ONLY A SAMPLE OF WHAT I WILL DO IF I EVER FIND OUT THERE IS SOMEONE ELSE!

THERE IS...NO... ONE... NO...ONE...

I WAITED UNTIL HE WAS OUT OF THE HOUSE THE NEXT DAY BEFORE I DARED RETURN TO THE STORE-ROOM! FLINGING MYSELF DOWN BESIDE THE DUMMY I CRIED OUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED!

OTTO...HE'S CRAZY... WHAT SHALL I DO?

SUDDENLY THE DOOR BEHIND ME WAS TORN OPEN! KONRAD STOOD THERE LOOKING LIKE A MAD MAN!

SO I FOUND YOU... WHY IT'S A DUMMY!

AS HIS FINGERS CLOSED AROUND MY THROAT I KNEW I HAD BEEN TRICKED AGAIN! HE HAD ONLY PRETENDED TO LEAVE THE HOUSE AND THEN HAD FOLLOWED ME AND DISCOVERED MY SECRET! IT WAS THEN I SCREAMED... SCREAMED THE ONLY WORD I COULD HEAR!

A DUMMY! MAKE A FOOL OUT OF ME, WILL YOU? NOW I WILL KILL YOU!

OTTO!

IT SEEMED AS THOUGH THE AIR IN THE ROOM CHANGED... AND THEN OVER KONRAD'S SHOULDER I SAW IT...AT FIRST A HUGE SHADOW MOVING SLOWLY FORWARD..

CLOSER AND CLOSER IT CAME! KONRAD MUST HAVE SEEN THE NEW LOOK OF TERROR ON MY FACE, FOR ONE SECOND HE LOOSENED HIS GRIP ON MY THROAT..

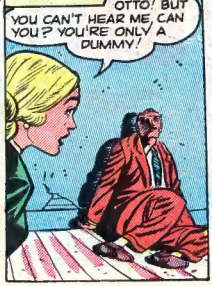
THE DUMMY ANSWERED MY CALL FOR HELP! SLOWLY, THE AWKWARD FIGURE MOVED TOWARD KONRAD.. BUT IT HAD CHANGED IN FACE AND FORM...IT WAS NO LONGER A DUMMY.. IT WAS **OTTO!**

IT HAD REACHED KONRAD NOW AND ITS FINGERS MOVED OUT FOR MY HUSBAND'S THROAT. I PUT MY HANDS OVER MY EARS TO SHUT OUT THE HORRIBLE SCREAMS FROM KONRAD..

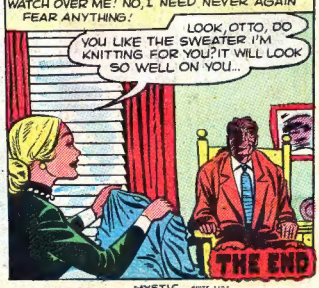
I TRIED NOT TO LOOK, BUT SOME FORCE COMPELLED ME TO! BEFORE MY EYES, KONRAD'S STRUGGLES LESSENED UNTIL THEY STOPPED ENTIRELY!

THEN HIS BODY CRUMPLED INTO A DEAD HEAP AT THE DUMMY'S FEET. FOR ONE SECOND IT HOVERED OVER HIM LIKE SOME HUGE HEAVENLY BIRD LOOKING AT THE DEED IT HAD COMMITTED, AND IT SEEMED TO ME THERE WAS A SMILE ON ITS GROTESQUE FACE..

FOR ONE SECOND ONLY..THEN IT TOO CRUMPLED TO THE FLOOR! WHEN I HAD COURAGE TO APPROACH IT... IT WAS ONLY A DUMMY WITHOUT LIFE OR ITS OWN POWER...



THE POLICE WERE VERY NICE ABOUT EVERYTHING AND THEY ATTRIBUTED MY HUSBAND'S DEATH TO THE WORK OF SOME PROWLER AND EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN OVER MY BEING ALONE IN THE HOUSE! BUT I WASN'T WORRIED FOR I HAD OTTO...OTTO WHO HAD PROMISED TO ALWAYS WATCH OVER ME! NO, I NEED NEVER AGAIN FEAR ANYTHING!



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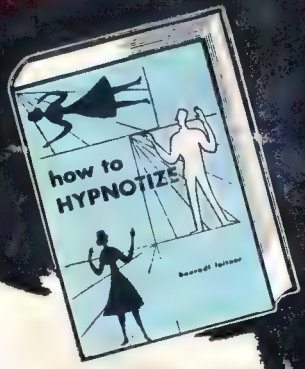
HOW TO HYPNOTIZE



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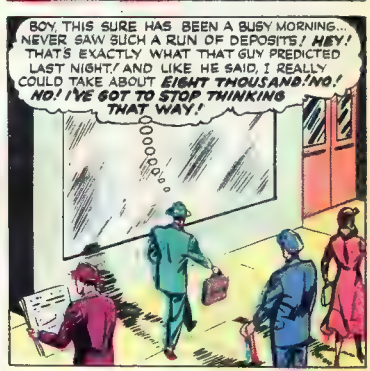
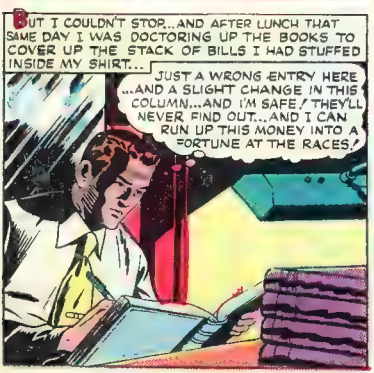
The FACELESS MAN
I CAN REMEMBER THE EXACT DATE THAT I FIRST SAW HIM... IT WAS ON A SUNDAY EVENING, JULY 16, 1950! MY WIFE HAD TURNED IN FOR THE NIGHT AND I WAS IN MY DEN READING! SUDDENLY, I FELT A COLD MUSTY WIND WHIPPING AROUND ME...THEN EVERYTHING WAS QUIET ... A DEADLY, TOMB-LIKE QUIET! HIS STARE BURNED INTO THE BACK OF MY NECK...I DROPPED MY BOOK AND LEAPED TO MY FEET
WHO IN THE BLAZES ARE YOU? HOW'D YOU GET IN HERE? ANSWER ME! BLAST YOU, ANSWER ME!
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN THIS MAN? DO YOU KNOW WHO HE IS? STEVE PARKER SAW HIM... AND THIS IS THE STORY OF THE PRICE HE PAID FOR DARING TO REVEAL THE SECRET OF THE FACELESS MAN!
8083
I WAS IN HERE ALL THE TIME... LOOK AT ME! YOU ARE POWERLESS TO REFUSE MY COMMANDS! TAKE EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS OF THE BANK'S MONEY TOMORROW!
THIS MUST BE A GAG! YOU'RE ONE OF THE GUYS FROM THE BANK PLAYING A JOKE!
IT WILL NOT BE SO FUNNY IF YOU DON'T STEAL THAT MONEY TOMORROW! STEAL ...STEAL!
HEY WHOEVER YOU ARE YOU'RE CARRYING THIS THING TOO FAR! GET OUT OF HERE, YOU BLASTED...

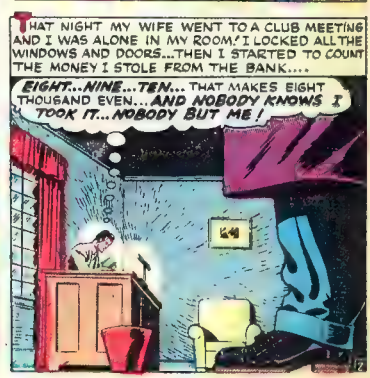
I SWUNG AT HIM AND I WAS SURE THAT I HIT HIM...BUT SUDDENLY HE WAS GONE AND I FOUND MYSELF SPRAWLED OUT ON THE FLOOR WITH A SORE JAW!
WOW! WHOEVER THAT GUY IS HE CERTAINLY PACKS A WALLOP! AND HE SURE SCRAMMED OUT OF HERE IN A HURRY!
STEVE! STEVE DARLING! WHAT HAPPENED?

I HEARD VOICES! WHO WAS HERE? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, DEAR?
YEAH, I'M OKAY...BUT YOU'LL THINK I HAD TOO MUCH SHERRY IF I TELL YOU WHAT HAPPENED!

I TOLD MY WIFE ABOUT THE FACELESS STRANGER... BUT SHE ONLY LAUGHED AND TOLD ME TO STOP READING THOSE HORROR BOOKS AND TO LAY OFF THE CREAM CHEESE AND PICKLE SANDWICHES AT NIGHT! THE NEXT DAY AT WORK...
MAYBE I DID FALL ASLEEP... MAYBE IT WAS A DREAM! BUT HE WAS SO REAL...AND HE SOCKED ME!


BOY, THIS SURE HAS BEEN A BUSY MORNING... NEVER SAW SUCH A RUN OF DEPOSITS! HEY! THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT THAT GUY PREDICTED LAST NIGHT! AND LIKE HE SAID, I REALLY COULD TAKE ABOUT EIGHT THOUSAND! NO! NO! I'VE GOT TO STOP THINKING THAT WAY!

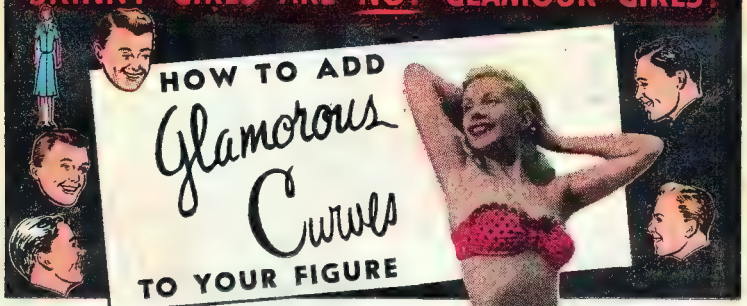

BUT I COULDN'T STOP...AND AFTER LUNCH THAT SAME DAY I WAS DOCTORING UP THE BOOKS TO COVER UP THE STACK OF BILLS I HAD STUFFED INSIDE MY SHIRT...
JUST A WRONG ENTRY HERE ...AND A SLIGHT CHANGE IN THIS COLUMN...AND I'M SAFE! THEY'LL NEVER FIND OUT...AND I CAN RUN UP THIS MONEY INTO A FORTUNE AT THE RACES!


THAT NIGHT MY WIFE WENT TO A CLUB MEETING AND I WAS ALONE IN MY ROOM! I LOCKED ALL THE WINDOWS AND DOORS...THEN I STARTED TO COUNT THE MONEY I STOLE FROM THE BANK....
EIGHT...NINE...TEN... THAT MAKES EIGHT THOUSAND EVEN... AND NOBODY KNOWS I TOOK IT...NOBODY BUT ME!

NO, STEVE, NOBODY KNOWS...NOBODY BUT YOU AND...
HUH? YOU AGAIN! HOW'D YOU GET IN HERE? AND WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME?
I TOLD YOU THAT YOU COULDN'T KEEP ME OUT, STEVE...AND I'M SO GLAD YOU TOOK MY ADVICE ABOUT THAT MONEY! IT WAS EASY...WASN'T IT?
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BLASTED BUSINESS! THIS MONEY IS MINE... MINE !!! AND YOU'RE NOT GETTING A CENT OF IT!
I DON'T WANT IT, STEVE...I'M HERE TO TELL YOU HOW TO SPEND IT...AND HOW TO GET MORE! YOU WILL BE A RICH MAN IF YOU DO AS I SAY! FIRST, GET RID OF YOUR WIFE, SHE'S....
WHAT! NO! NO! STOP YOU'VE MADE ME A THIEF...BUT YOU'LL NEVER MAKE ME A MURDERER! GET OUT!...OR I'LL CALL THE POLICE!
SURE, CALL THEM, STEVE! I'M SURE THEY'LL BE VERY INTERESTED TO KNOW WHERE YOU GOT ALL THAT MONEY!
ALL RIGHT...ALL RIGHT...I'LL DO AS YOU SAY...ONLY LEAVE ME ALONE... GET OUT! GO AWAY!
HE DISAPPEARED AS SILENTLY AND AS QUICKLY AS HE CAME...BUT HE HAD PLANTED THE SEED OF MURDER WITHIN MY BRAIN! AFTER HE LEFT I WENT INTO THE KITCHEN...
BETH WILL BE HOME SOON, IT'LL BE EASY TO...
HELLO, STEVE! I'M HOME...AND I'M STARVED! WHERE ARE YOU?
IN HERE, BETH, COME IN...I HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU!
3

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

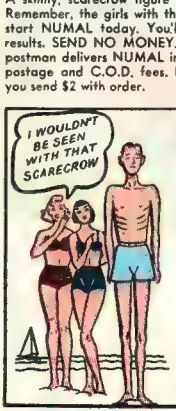
SKINNY GIRLS ARE NOT GLAMOUR GIRLS!



HOW TO ADD Glamorous Curves TO YOUR FIGURE

IF you are a normal, healthy underweight person and are ashamed of your skinny, scrawny figure, NUMAL can help you add pounds and pounds of firm, attractive flesh to your figure.

For NUMAL, a doctor-approved formula, contains essential minerals, vitamins and nutrients that may aid your appetite. Then you eat more and enjoy what you eat. But that isn't all. NUMAL contains a food element which is also a great help in putting on weight. So don't let them snicker at your skinny, scrawny figure. A skinny, scarecrow figure is neither fashionable nor glamorous. Remember, the girls with the glamorous curves get the dates. So start NUMAL today. You'll love the taste . . . you'll love the results. SEND NO MONEY. Just your name and address. When postman delivers NUMAL in plain wrapper, pay him only $2 plus postage and C.O.D. fees. Note: You save all postal charges if you send $2 with order.



SKINNY MEN ARE NOT ATTRACTIVE EITHER

Make no mistake about it—a skinny, scrawny body is no asset in social, business or sports life. So if you are a normal, healthy underweight person, give NUMAL a chance to build you up, put firm flesh on your frame. It's guaranteed—it must help you or your money back. You'll like NUMAL. It tastes good, does good. Order yours today.

USE CONVENIENT COUPON NOW

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE!

If you aren't pleased with results after using one bottle of NUMAL, you get your money back. Fill in and mail coupon now.

U. S. NATURE PRODUCTS CORP.
3560 Broadway, Dept. 97—B New York 31, N. Y.

SEND NO MONEY! . . ORDER ON APPROVAL!

These are excerpts from unsolicited and unpaid for testimonials . . .
(Names on request)

"Please send me another bottle of NUMAL. — it has helped me wonderfully. I have gained some weight and feel fine now"
Mrs. H. S., Rolla, Mo.

"— made me sleep so much better and it improved my appetite so much"
S. A. L., Sanford, Fla.

"I am so delighted with NUMAL — it has improved me very much — my friends just rave at me".
M. W., Waycross, Ga.

"I am feeling fine and I can now eat three meals a day . . . Before I started taking NUMAL I wasn't eating well at all but now I have a good appetite".
Mrs. M. D. C., Baton Rouge, La.

"I think NUMAL is wonderful My husband says I look better and I feel better".
Mrs. C. L., Rutland, Vt.

Medically Checked and Approved!

NOTE: The NUMAL Formula has been double-checked 1st. By one of America's foremost research laboratories. 2nd. By our Medical Director a well-known New York practicing physician. All medical statements in this ad have also been checked by our own Medical Director for accuracy.

MAIL COUPON TODAY!

U. S. NATURE PRODUCTS CORP.
3560 Broadway, Dept. 97—B New York 31, N. Y.

Send me at once a jar of NUMAL with the understanding that it must put weight on me or you'll refund my money after the first jar I'll pay postman $2.00 plus C.O.D charges and postage

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ Zone_____ State_____

NOTE: If you want to save all postal charges enclose $2 check, money order or cash. We will pay all postal charges. Same money-back guarantee.
Sorry, Canadian orders cannot be sent C.O.D. Send International Money Order.

BETH CAME INTO THE KITCHEN...AND AS I STEPPED TOWARD HER WITH THE KNIFE IN MY HAND AND MURDER IN MY HEART... I SUDDENLY SLIPPED ON THE WAXED FLOOR AND...
BETH...I...I'M GOING TO... OH!
STEVE! BE CAREFUL WITH THAT KNIFE...YOU'LL HURT YOURSELF!
CALL IT LUCK...FATE...ANYTHING YOU WANT...BUT THAT FALL KEPT ME FROM BECOMING A MURDERER! THE NEXT MORNING INSTEAD OF GOING TO THE BANK, I WENT TO THE RACES!
LAZY BOY... THE WINNAH!
LAZY BOY! THAT'S MY HORSE! I WON!
CASH
SEVEN...EIGHT...NINE! NINE HUNDRED SMACKERS! YOU SURE PICKED A HONEY THAT TIME, MISTER!
ALL THAT DOUGH IN JUST A FEW MINUTES, WOW! IF THIS KEEPS UP I CAN REPLACE THE MONEY I TOOK FROM THE BANK AND STILL HAVE PLENTY! THEN IT'D BE LIKE A LOAN!
BUT YOU KNOW HOW THE RACES ARE...MY LUCK DIDN'T HOLD OUT! I LOST EVERY CENT OF THAT EIGHT GRAND...EVERY BLASTED CENT!
STEVE, DARLING! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? THE BANK CALLED AND...
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS WHERE I'VE BEEN! MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!
680
THE NEXT DAY AT THE BANK, JUST BEFORE CLOSING TIME...
GO AHEAD, STEVE... TAKE SOME MORE! NOBODY'LL KNOW... IT'LL BE EASY... JUST LIKE...
YOU? HERE? GET OUT BEFORE SOMEONE SEES YOU!
STEVE! STEVE PARKER! IS ANYTHING WRONG? TO WHOM ARE YOU TALKING?
I'M ALL RIGHT, MR. BIXBY...JUST THINKING OUT LOUD!
THEY...THEY CAN'T SEE HIM!

I GOT OUT OF THAT TIGHT SPOT, BUT I COULDN'T FIGURE OUT WHY I WAS ABLE TO SEE THAT STRANGER...AND THE OTHERS COULDN'T./ THEN ON THE WAY HOME I WAS STRUCK WITH A GRAND REVELATION./

GREAT SCOTT! WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THIS BEFORE? IF NOBODY CAN SEE HIM BUT ME...THEN HE **CAN'T** TELL ANYBODY ABOUT ME AND THE MONEY./ HE'S BEEN BLUFFING ME./

SO YOU'VE GOT IT ALL FIGURED OUT, HUH, STEVE? BUT YOU BETTER FORGET ABOUT IT...AND DO AS I SAY./

AW, YOU DON'T SCARE ME ANYMORE./ GO AHEAD, TURN ME IN TO THE POLICE...THEY CAN'T HEAR YOU AND THEY CAN'T SEE YOU./ **HA! HA!**

TOMORROW YOU WILL TAKE MORE MONEY FROM THE BANK, STEVE...

GO AWAY...BEAT IT./ I'M THROUGH LISTENING TO YOU./ YOU HAVEN'T GOT A THING ON ME./

STEVE! WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?

TO THIS GUY...THE GUY WITHOUT A FACE...AND WITHOUT BRAINS./ HA./ HA./

GOOD HEAVENS... HE'S BEEN ACTING STRANGE FOR DAYS ...NOW THIS./ HE MUST BE GOING MAD./

MY WIFE LEFT ME AFTER A FEW MORE INCIDENTS LIKE THAT.../// I DIDN'T CARE AT FIRST, FOR WITH THE MONEY I WAS TAKING FROM THE BANK I WAS LIVING LIKE A TWENTY-FOUR KARAT KING!

THEN ONE DAY MR. BIXBY, THE PRESIDENT, CALLED ME INTO HIS OFFICE...

...AND WE WILL HAVE TO GO OVER THE BOOKS THE FIRST THING TOMORROW MORNING./

TOMORROW M...MORNING? Y-YES, MR. BIXBY, I'LL BE HERE....

I WAS TRAPPED! THEY WOULD FIND OUT EVERYTHING...AND WHAT WAS MY EXCUSE...MY ALIBI? I COULDN'T TELL THEM A FANTASTIC TALE ABOUT HOW A FACELESS MAN TALKED ME INTO TAKING THE MONEY! BUT I COULD GET REVENGE FOR ALL THAT BLASTED TEMPTER DID TO ME....
A REVOLVER, PLEASE... ANY KIND...SO LONG AS IT SHOOTS!
DO YOU HAVE A PERMIT, MISTER?
NO...BUT I DO HAVE THIS... AND IT'S YOURS FOR A GUN!
A THOUSAND SMACKERS, ...WOW!
JUST FOGET WHERE YOU GOT IT, MISTER!
THAT EVENING I WAITED FOR HIM...WAITED WITH THE GUN CONCEALED UNDER THE NEWSPAPER ON MY LAP! AT THE FINAL STROKE OF ELEVEN...
AH, GOOD EVENING, STEVE! WAITING FOR ME? GOOD...I SHALL GIVE YOU YOUR INSTRUCTIONS FOR TOMORROW!
THERE'LL BE NO TOMORROW FOR YOU, YOU BLASTED GOON! HERE...HERE'S SOMETHING WITHOUT ORDERS FROM YOU!
OWW!
YOU MISERABLE IDIOT! DON'T YOU...KNOW WHO I AM...WHO YOU'VE KILLED...?
NO, BUT...BUT I'LL (GASP!) SOON FIND OUT! I'LL BE ABLE TO...(GASP!)SEE YOUR FACE AT... NO! NO! IT... IT CAN'T BE!
OH, MY POOR STEVE...MY POOR HUSBAND!
HE SHOT HIMSELF MRS. PARKER...A PLAIN CASE OF SUICIDE!
THE END

SUBSCRIBE NOW! $1.00 FOR NEXT 12 ISSUES!
MYSTIC SUITE 1604 360 1st AVE. NEW YORK CITY(1)

And to think they used to call me

SKINNY!

Give Me 15 Minutes A Day And I'll Give You A New Body

PEOPLE used to laugh at my skinny, 97 lb. body. I was so embarrassed at my weakling build that I was ashamed to strip for sports or for a swim. Girls snickered and made fun of me behind my back. THEN I discovered my marvelous new muscle-building system—"*Dynamic Tension.*" And it turned me into such a complete *specimen* of MANHOOD that today I hold the title "THE WORLD'S MOST PERFECTLY DEVELOPED MAN."

That's how I traded in my "bag of bones" for a barrel of muscle! And I felt so much better, so much on *top of the world* in my big new, husky body, that I decided to devote my whole life to helping other fellows change themselves into "perfectly developed men."

WHAT'S MY SECRET?

When you look in the mirror and see a healthy, husky, strapping fellow smiling back at you—then you'll be astonished at how *short* a time it takes. "*Dynamic Tension*" to GET RESULTS!

"*Dynamic Tension*" is the easy, NATURAL method that you can practice in the privacy of your own room—JUST 15 MINUTES EACH DAY—while your scrawny shoulder muscles begin to swell . . . those spindly arms and legs of yours bulge . . . and your whole body starts to feel "alive," full of zip and go!

No "ifs," "ands," or "maybes." Just tell me *where* you want handsome, powerful muscles. Are you fat and flabby? Or skinny and gawky? Are you short-winded, pepless? Do you hold back and let others walk off with the prettiest girls, best jobs, etc.? Then write for my FREE Book about "*Dynamic Tension*" and learn how I can make you a healthy, confident, powerful HE-MAN.

Thousands of other fellows are becoming marvelous physical specimens—my way. I give you no gadgets or contraptions to fool with. When you have learned to develop your strength through "*Dynamic Tension*," you can laugh at artificial muscle-makers. You simply utilize the dormant muscle-power in your own body—watch it increase and multiply into real, solid LIVE MUSCLE.

CHARLES ATLAS
Holder of title, "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man"

FREE BOOK

Mail the coupon right now for full details and I'll send you my illustrated book, "Everlasting Health and Strength." Tells all about my "*Dynamic Tension*" method. Shows actual photos of men I've made into Atlas Champions. It's a valuable book! And it's FREE. Send for your copy today. Mail the coupon to me personally. CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 60F, 115 East 23rd Street, New York 10, N. Y.

CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 60F
115 East 23rd Street, New York 10, N.Y.

I want the proof that your system of "*Dynamic Tension*" will help make a New Man of me—give me a healthy, husky body and big muscular development. Send me your free book, "Everlasting Health and Strength."

Name ..... Age .....
(Please print or write plainly)

Add .....

City ..... State .....

WHAT WOULD **YOU** DO IF YOU FACED DEATH AND WERE OFFERED A PARDON --- BUT A PERILOUS, FANTASTIC PARDON THAT COULD RESULT IN SOMETHING FAR MORE HORRIBLE THAN DEATH? **I** WAS OFFERED THAT CHOICE... AND ***THIS*** WAS MY DECISION...

"THEN SHEER PANIC TOOK HOLD OF ME, AND I RAN---!"
WHY DID I DO IT? WHO AM I THAT SHOULD TAKE A LIFE? I'M NOT PRIVILEGED TO PASS JUDGMENT AND EXECUTE! I SCHEMED AND I KILLED--- I KILLED!

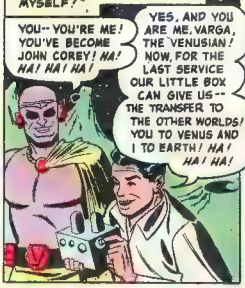
"THEY CAUGHT ME OF COURSE--!"
YOU DON'T NEED THESE-- I'LL COME QUIETLY!
BOXIN
"THE TRIAL WAS BRIEF! IT WAS PREMEDITATED MURDER, AND THERE WAS NO WAY OF TELLING THEM WHAT A ROTTEN THING HE WAS AND HOW HE DESERVED TO DIE! I WAS GUILTY AND NOW I WOULD PAY!"
FOR YOUR CRIME OF FIRST DEGREE MURDER, I SENTENCE YOU, JOHN COREY, TO THE ELECTRIC CHAIR!
"THEY PUT ME IN A CELL AND THE DAYS WORE AWAY UNTIL THERE WAS NOTHING LEFT BETWEEN ME AND THAT DEATH CHAIR BUT HOURS! THEN THE ANGUISH CAME--THE TERRIBLE, SCREAMING ANGUISH UNTIL MY MIND WAS A BATTERED THING DRENCHED WITH DESPAIR!"
I DON'T WANT TO DIE--EVEN THOUGH I DESERVE IT-- I DON'T WANT TO DIE!
LOOK UP, MAN! CAN YOU HEAR ME? HAVE I REACHED YOU ACROSS THE VOID OF SPACE?
WHO SPOKE? THAT--- THAT FACE---I MUST BE GOING CRAZY! THE STRAIN OF FACING DEATH---!
YES, YOU HEAR! THE WAVES OF YOUR THOUGHTS HAVE REACHED ME! I HAVE TRIED FOR A LONG TIME TO MAKE CONTACT WITH AN EARTHLING AND NOW I HAVE SUCCEEDED! IT WAS NECESSARY TO FIND ONE WHO IS IN THE DEPTHS OF DESPAIR, ELSE HE MIGHT REFUSE TO LISTEN TO WHAT I PROPOSE!
"OF COURSE I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT--- THERE WAS NOTHING THERE--A TRICK OF MY BRAIN TO TAKE MY MIND FROM WHAT WAS SO SOON TO COME!"
I CANNOT SEE YOU, BUT I HAVE CAUGHT YOUR BRAIN RADIATIONS WITH MY MACHINE! YOU DOUBT WHAT YOU ARE EXPERIENCING IS REAL! IT IS--BE ASSURED OF THAT!
ALL RIGHT--EVEN IF IT'S A DREAM, IT TAKES MY MIND AWAY FROM THE SHORT FUTURE! WHAT DO YOU WANT?
I HAVE LONG WISHED TO VISIT EARTH! I HAVE MADE A TINY MACHINE THAT CAN TRANSPORT MY BODY, AND YOURS, IF YOU CONSENT. THROUGH SPACE, AND WE CAN EXCHANGE IDENTITIES--YOU TO LIVE ON MY PLANET, VENUS, FOR AWHILE, AND I TO LIVE AS YOU, ON EARTH! WHAT IS YOUR ANSWER, EARTHLING?
VENUS--! YOU'RE SURE YOU--YOU CAN'T SEE ME--WHERE I AM?
I CAN ONLY SEE YOUR FACE AS YOU SEE MINE! PERHAPS I SHOULD WARN YOU BEFORE YOU MAKE YOUR DECISION--THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT SOMETHING WILL GO WRONG IF YOU CONSENT TO THE EXCHANGE! YOUR BODY AND YOUR SOUL MAY BE TRAPPED IN OUTER SPACE FOREVER!
WHAT CAN I LOSE? SURE I CONSENT! I'LL GO ALONG WITH ANYTHING THAT WILL KEEP THIS--THIS DREAM GOING SO I DON'T HAVE TO THINK OF WHAT'S TO COME!
2

"THE WORDS HAD NO SOONER PASSED MY LIPS THAN I EXPERIENCED A TERRIBLE TEARING SENSATION! IT SEEMED AS THOUGH MY SOUL WAS BEING RIPPED FROM MY TORTURED FLESH! THEN I LOST CONSCIOUSNESS IN A FRIGHTFUL WHIRL!"

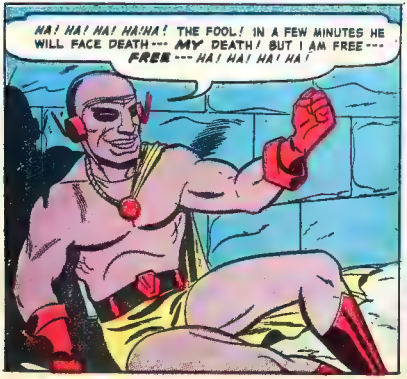
"I CAME TO MYSELF IN SOME FAR FLUNG HALF-WORLD! MY FIRST THOUGHT WAS THAT THIS WAS DEATH--EITHER THAT OR THE MENTAL VISITATION OF THE BEINGS FROM VENUS HAD BEEN REAL!"

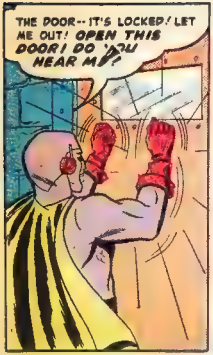
WHERE----? WHAT HAPPENED? YOU! YOU LOOK LIKE--!
I AM! I AM VARGA, THE VENUSIAN! COME, EARTHLING, STAND UP--- WE ARE BETWEEN TIME AND PLANETS--WE MUST MAKE OUR EXCHANGE OF BODIES QUICKLY! WE CANNOT TARRY HERE!

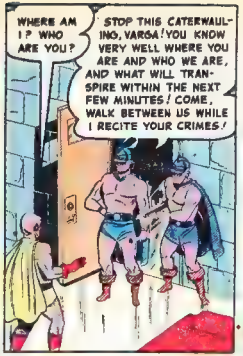
"MY BODY BECAME LIGHT--LIGHT AS AIR! MY SKIN PRICKLED! FOR A SECOND, SIGHT WAS GONE AND WHEN IT RETURNED I FACED MYSELF!".


YOU--YOU'RE ME! YOU'VE BECOME JOHN COREY! HA! HA! HA! HA!
YES, AND YOU ARE ME, VARGA, THE VENUSIAN! NOW, FOR THE LAST SERVICE OUR LITTLE BOX CAN GIVE US--THE TRANSFER TO THE OTHER WORLDS! YOU TO VENUS AND I TO EARTH! HA! HA! HA!

"HE PRESSED THE TRIGGER OF THE LITTLE BOX AGAIN--AND AGAIN! I WAS WHIRLED AWAY, HOWLING WITH LAUGHTER AT THE TRICK I HAD PLAYED ON HIM! I HEARD HIS RECEDING LAUGHTER LIKE AN ECHO OF MY OWN!"

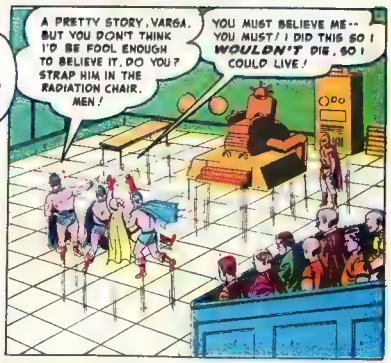




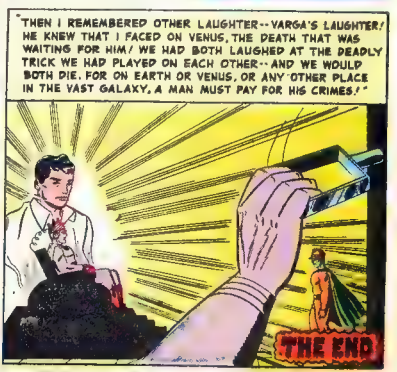

WHERE AM I? WHO ARE YOU?
STOP THIS CATERWAULING, VARGA! YOU KNOW VERY WELL WHERE YOU ARE AND WHO WE ARE, AND WHAT WILL TRANSPIRE WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MINUTES! COME, WALK BETWEEN US WHILE I RECITE YOUR CRIMES!

YOU HAVE COMMITTED CRIMES AGAINST THE VENUSIAN STATE BY DABBLING IN A FORM OF INTERPLANETARY COMMUNICATION, AND TRANSFERENCE OF FORM! THE PURPOSE OF YOUR EXPERIMENTS WAS TO EFFECT A TRANSFERENCE TO EARTH SO THAT YOU COULD EVENTUALLY LEAD YOUR REVOLUTIONARY GROUP THERE TO CONQUER THAT PLANET, WHICH IS AGAINST VENUS' ACT OF PLANETARY ISOLATIONISM!

FOR THESE CRIMES AGAINST THE STATE, YOU, VARGA, HAVE BEEN CONDEMNED TO DEATH AT THIS HOUR!
DEATH! NO! WAIT--THIS IS CRAZY! I'M NOT VARGA, I'M JOHN COREY, AN EARTHMAN! VARGA CHANGED BODIES WITH ME AND TRAVELLED TO EARTH IN MY STEAD! YOU CAN'T KILL ME FOR VARGA'S CRIMES--YOU CAN'T!


A PRETTY STORY, VARGA. BUT YOU DON'T THINK I'D BE FOOL ENOUGH TO BELIEVE IT, DO YOU? STRAP HIM IN THE RADIATION CHAIR, MEN!
YOU MUST BELIEVE ME--YOU MUST! I DID THIS SO I WOULDN'T DIE, SO I COULD LIVE!

"BUT THEY DIDN'T HEED ME! THEY STRAPPED ME TO THAT INFERNAL CHAIR AND THEY LAUGHED--THEY LAUGHED AS I HAD LAUGHED BUT A SHORT TIME BEFORE!"
I LAUGHED AT HIM--AT VARGA, BECAUSE I KNEW THAT IN A FEW MINUTES HE WOULD BE DEAD--ELECTROCUTED AS JOHN COREY THERE ON EARTH!


"THEN I REMEMBERED OTHER LAUGHTER--VARGA'S LAUGHTER! HE KNEW THAT I FACED ON VENUS, THE DEATH THAT WAS WAITING FOR HIM! WE HAD BOTH LAUGHED AT THE DEADLY TRICK WE HAD PLAYED ON EACH OTHER--AND WE WOULD BOTH DIE. FOR ON EARTH OR VENUS, OR ANY OTHER PLACE IN THE VAST GALAXY, A MAN MUST PAY FOR HIS CRIMES!"
THE END

SUBSCRIBE NOW! $1.00 FOR NEXT 12 ISSUES!
MYSTIC
SUITE 1404
NEW YORK

THE SHIVERING FLAME

FROM the very first moment I entered the house, I had a feeling that something was wrong. Why I should have felt this way, I can't say. The building itself was beautiful; my hosts were a charming couple whom I had known for years, and the surrounding New England countryside was exquisite. Altogether, all the elements for a pleasant two-week vacation were at hand, and yet, for some inexplicable reason, I was seized with a premonition of impending danger.

After I had been shown my room, I washed and rejoined my friends, who were having their late afternoon tea in the glass-enclosed patio. After some brief conversation as to my trip, they began speaking of the house and the manner in which they had bought it.

They had seen it for the first time a year earlier, when they had made a trip up to Maine. It was love at first sight, and when they learned that the property was for sale, they bought it at once. The grounds had been neglected, and the building, which was over a hundred years old, was badly in need of repairs. The balance of that summer and the following spring was spent in renovating the place, and now that it was completed, they had moved in with high spirits. Their arrival had preceded mine by only two weeks.

"Don't you think it's lovely?" asked my hostess. "It's just the place we've been looking for—for years and years!"

I told her that I thought it charming. I could not bring myself to tell her of my strange uneasiness. It would have been in bad taste; and I was afraid that she would laugh at me.

I stared out across the wide spacious lawn and the well-clipped hedge. The sun was sinking slowly in the west, and its last rays shot long bands of orange light across the darkening sky. I tried to rouse myself from the fear which now gripped me more acutely.

We ate the evening meal by candlelight, and later I asked to be excused. I felt rather tired by the long trip, and I was anxious for a good night's rest. I also felt that fatigue from the journey may have been partly responsible for my general feeling of tension. I was certain that a sound sleep would do me a lot of good, and that whatever it was that was bothering me would be gone by morning.

After saying goodnight, I left my friends and went upstairs. The room I had been given was fairly large, with paneled oak walls, and on one side were a pair of large French windows which led to a small balcony. Just before going to bed, I stepped out on the small ledge for a last cigarette. The night was unusually clear, and the sky, studded with thousands of stars, was an enchanting sight. A gentle breeze blew in from across the lawn, bringing with it the heavy scent of flowers from the garden below. I had just snubbed out my cigarette and was watching the fiery trail of the sparks as they whirled down, when I saw a girl. She was standing at the far side of the lawn, to the left of the patio. What surprised me most was her dress. I could see it quite plainly in the moonlight—a brocaded material, cut in the fashion of a period long gone. What was even more startling was that she held a candle, and in spite of the wind which now blew steadily, there was no flickering of the tiny flame. At the moment, she was staring across the lawn, but as I continued to look at her, she seemed to sense my gaze and immediately turned in my direction. For several seconds, she continued to stare at me; then, cupping her hand about the candle, she leaned forward and blew out the flame. With this gesture she turned her back to me, and walking quickly across the lawn, she disappeared behind a grove of trees.

I left the balcony with the intention of telling my friends what I had seen. When I opened the door of my room, I noticed that the lights from below were out. Obviously, my friends had already gone to bed, and to disturb them from their slumber with so fantastic a tale as this would make me appear somewhat ridiculous. At any rate, I felt that it could wait for morning, and so, re-entering

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT PIMPLES

Acne, Blackheads, and other externally caused Skin Blemishes

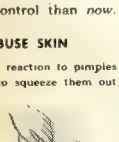
WHEN pimply skin is your problem, the first thing to get straight is that you *can* and *should* do something about it. To develop the attractiveness of your face is not mere vanity. It is an "open sesame" towards bringing the real YOU closer to other people and giving your personality the poise and confidence it needs. Your good qualities – intelligence, character, dignity – all go to naught... are completely cancelled out by a skin that "nobody loves to touch." Remember, the YOU that people see first is your face.

SKIN PROBLEMS DEMAND IMMEDIATE CARE

Medical statistics tell us that blemished skin usually occurs from adolescence on through adult life. The problem at the adolescent stage is serious enough to deserve attentive care as a family matter. In adulthood, when life's responsibilities are so much heavier, it is doubly important to exert great effort to eliminate these blemishes. And, there is no better time to get pimples under control than *now*.

DON'T ABUSE SKIN

The first instinctive reaction to pimples and blackheads is to squeeze them out with your fingers.



A bit of experimentation along these lines soon provides convincing proof that this succeeds only in inflaming your skin and spreading the infection. Under no circumstances should pimples and blackheads ever be squeezed.

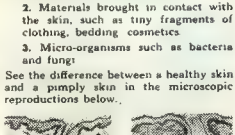
MICROSCOPE SHOWS IMPORTANT BASIS FOR EXTERNALLY CAUSED PIMPLES AND BLACKHEADS

Let's take a look through the microscope to see what's behind those unsightly pimples. The high-powered lenses show your skin coated with a covering which originated from two sources -one, internally and the other, externally

The internal substances on your skin include dead cells, residue from the sweat glands, and a high quantity of oil excreted by the sebaceous glands. A most important factor in skin disorders occurs when thousands of these tiny sebaceous glands discharge more oil than the skin can use for lubrication. Unless special care is given, the oil forms a heavy film which attracts foreign matter to your skin much as any oil mop picks up dust. These infectious external substances may be classified into three general groups:

1. Airborne materials such as dust, pollens, condensation products of smoke, vapors, etc
2. Materials brought in contact with the skin, such as tiny fragments of clothing, bedding cosmetics
3. Micro-organisms such as bacteria and fungi

See the difference between a healthy skin and a pimply skin in the microscopic reproductions below.



A. Normal skin **B. Sick, pimply skin**

Diagram A shows a normal-size, s-moothly functioning sebaceous gland. Diagram B pictures sick, pimply skin. Notice that the sebaceous gland is a swollen mass of trapped oil, waste and infectious bacteria.

TRY THIS SENSIBLE WAY

Two sensible aims to achieve in controlling this skin condition are: to clear the pores of clogging matter, and to inhibit the excessive oiliness of the skin. Toward these ends, Dornol Products' research makes available two formulas. One is to aid in thorough cleansing by highly detergent penetration which simplifies the removal of waste and foreign matter. The other is to discourage oiliness with clinically-proved ingredients, and to kill infectious bacteria often associated with externally caused pimples and blackheads.

BLEMISHES COVERED UP

To remove the distressing embarrassment of these skin blemishes, the second Dornol formula exerts a "cover-up" action on your broken out skin while the medication does its work. This, plus its pleasant odor, will spare you the mental distress which is associated with unsightly, malodorous, medicated preparations. Imagine! You can apply this Dornol formula to your skin by day and face the immediate present with greater confidence in your appearance, while secure in the knowledge that medication is acting to remove old blemishes and keep away new ones. What this "cover-up" action alone is worth in peace of mind is beyond calculation. No longer need prying eyes make you wince with humiliation and misery. Now because of this wonderful feature of the Dornol treatment, you can put your best foot forward ... at once!

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK

We know what the Dornol treatment has done for others, so we want you to try it at *our risk*. A few minutes a day invested in our treatment can yield more gratifying results than you ever dared hope for. This is what we say to you. If you are not delighted in every way by the improved condition and general appearance of your skin in just 10 days, simply return the unused portion and we will refund not only the price you paid – but DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK! Can anything be fairer than that? You have everything to gain... *and we take all the risk!*

How to get the Dornol-Treatment immediately: Just send your name and address to DORNOL PRODUCTS, Inc., Dept. **77**, 363 Central Park Ave., Yonkers, N. Y. Be sure to print clearly. By return mail we will ship the Dornol treatment to you in a plain package. When postman delivers the package, pay only $1.98 plus postage. Or, if you wish to save postal fee, send $2 now and we will pay postage. Which ever way you order, the DOUBLE REFUND GUARANTEE still prevails. Don't delay another minute, send for the Dornol Medicated Skin treatment with "cover-up" feature ... *at once!* Sorry, no Canadian C.O.D.'s.

...CONTINUED

my room, I put out the light and got into bed.

I don't know how long I lay there tossing, my mind filled with troubled thoughts and oppressive images. After a long while, I fell into a sleep which was filled with strange dreams —or were they dreams?

This is one point I'm not certain about. All I know is that at one moment I sensed myself fully awake. I was lying in bed and the windows which led to the balcony were open. I remember my being surprised at this, since I recalled my having closed them after seeing the girl on the lawn below. I was still trying to understand the open windows, when the moon suddenly appeared between them, and a broad sash of blue-white light fell directly across the foot of my bed. The glow was unusually strong, and I lifted my hand to my eyes to shield them from the glare. When I removed my hand, I wasn't prepared for what met my eyes. There on the balcony, and staring solemnly into the room, was the girl I had seen a few short hours before. She again held the burning candle, and cupping her hand once more about the flame, she stepped silently into the room.

This time she didn't look at me, but I recall vividly my sitting up in bed and the feeling of cold sweat running down my neck and back. She behaved as though I were not there and continued to walk back and forth across the room, in much the same manner as a person tormented by some pressing problem. Often she would look anxiously toward the balcony, as though she were expecting someone. Then she would turn away and resume her worried pacing across the floor.

I don't know how long this continued, but suddenly she seemed to have come to a decision. Quickly she crossed the room to the windows. With a swift motion she raised the draperies, and in the next moment she had set them ablaze with the flame of the candle.

With a scream of horror I leaped from the bed and rushed

to the window. The next thing I knew I was awake. I was standing before the balcony, and my hands had a firm grip upon the draperies. The room was empty. Whoever or whatever it was that had been there was no longer present. The windows were closed, and looking out across the lawn, I saw the eastern sky redden with the first light of the rising sun.

Sleep was now out of the question. I dressed quickly and went downstairs. The thought of spending another moment in that room was too horrible. When my friends came down about two hours later, they were quite surprised to find me awake. I mouthed some excuse and after breakfast told them that I would have to leave. I don't remember the exact story I told them, but I was no longer trying to be gracious. I think I mentioned an old allergy which seemed to have been affected by the climate, and begging their forgiveness for cutting short my visit, I took the afternoon train . . .

A year later I met my hostess at a gathering of friends. One of my first remarks was about the house

"Oh, haven't you heard?" she asked.

"Heard what?"

"The house," she replied. "It burned down about five months ago. I was heart-broken!"

She probably mistook the look on my face to be disappointment rather than agitation.

"Oh, yes," she continued, by way of explanation, "we had one of those freak lightning storms and the lights blew out. Someone left a candle standing by the window, and the wind must have blown the draperies into the flame. In no time the whole place was a blazing inferno!"

"Where did the fire start?" I attempted to control my voice.

She hesitated a moment and then answered, "Why, now that I think of it, it was the same room you occupied when you were up on your visit!"

THE END

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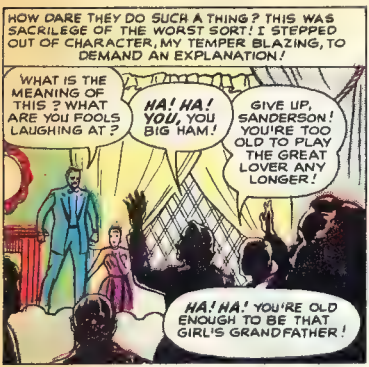
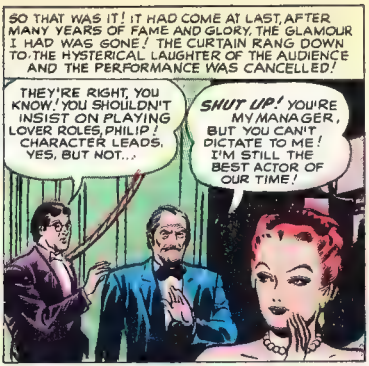
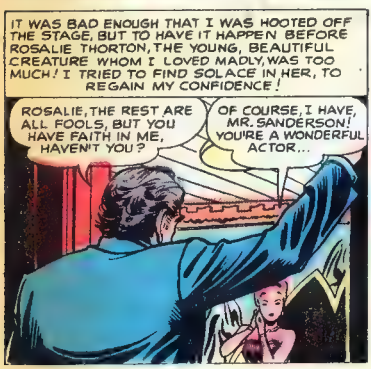
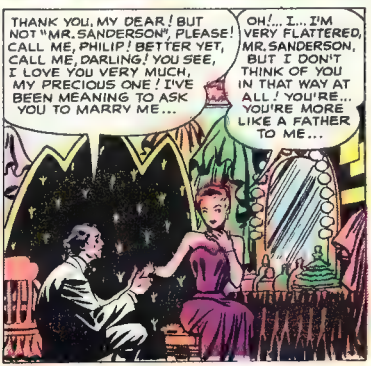
THE STORY OF A STRANGE MAN... A STRANGE DRINK...
... AND A STRANGE NEW ADVENTURE INTO TERROR!
HA! HA! HA!
GET OFF STAGE, YOU HAM!
BRAVO! BRAVO!
CLAP! CLAP!
MARRY YOU? HA! HA! WHY YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO BE MY GRANDFATHER!
PHILIP! YOU... YOU'RE THE HANDSOMEST MAN I'VE EVER SEEN! I'LL BE PROUD TO BE YOUR WIFE!
8104
LAUGHTER... LOUD, VULGAR, TEARING APART MY SOUL AND MY HEART! IT BLASTED OUT FROM THE ORCHESTRA SEATS, LEAPED DOWN FROM THE BALCONY, ECHOED FROM THE WALLS!
HA! HA!
HA! HA! HO!
HEE! HEE!
HA! HA!
THE ACTION OF THE PLAY IN WHICH I, PHILIP SANDERSON, WAS STARRING, HALTED! THERE WAS NO COMEDY IN THE SCENE ROSALIE AND I WERE PLAYING! IT WAS A TRAGEDY, PROFOUND! BUT, SUDDENLY THE LAUGHTER EXPLODED, AND I REALIZED IN HORROR THAT THEY WERE LAUGHING AT ME... ME... THE GREATEST ACTOR OF THE AGE!
HA! HA!
OH, BOY! THIS IS RICH! HA! HA! HA!

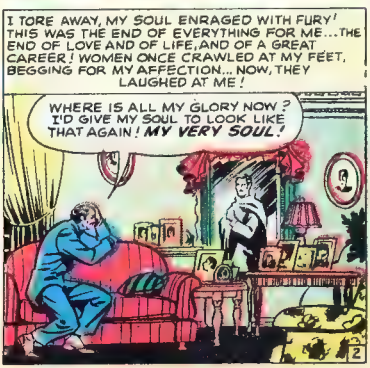

HOW DARE THEY DO SUCH A THING? THIS WAS SACRILEGE OF THE WORST SORT! I STEPPED OUT OF CHARACTER, MY TEMPER BLAZING, TO DEMAND AN EXPLANATION!
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS? WHAT ARE YOU FOOLS LAUGHING AT?
HA! HA! YOU, YOU BIG HAM!
GIVE UP, SANDERSON! YOU'RE TOO OLD TO PLAY THE GREAT LOVER ANY LONGER!
HA! HA! YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO BE THAT GIRL'S GRANDFATHER!


SO THAT WAS IT! IT HAD COME AT LAST, AFTER MANY YEARS OF FAME AND GLORY, THE GLAMOUR I HAD WAS GONE! THE CURTAIN RANG DOWN TO THE HYSTERICAL LAUGHTER OF THE AUDIENCE AND THE PERFORMANCE WAS CANCELLED!
THEY'RE RIGHT, YOU KNOW! YOU SHOULDN'T INSIST ON PLAYING LOVER ROLES, PHILIP! CHARACTER LEADS, YES, BUT NOT...
SHUT UP! YOU'RE MY MANAGER, BUT YOU CAN'T DICTATE TO ME! I'M STILL THE BEST ACTOR OF OUR TIME!


IT WAS BAD ENOUGH THAT I WAS HOOTED OFF THE STAGE, BUT TO HAVE IT HAPPEN BEFORE ROSALIE THORTON, THE YOUNG, BEAUTIFUL CREATURE WHOM I LOVED MADLY, WAS TOO MUCH! I TRIED TO FIND SOLACE IN HER, TO REGAIN MY CONFIDENCE!
ROSALIE, THE REST ARE ALL FOOLS, BUT YOU HAVE FAITH IN ME, HAVEN'T YOU?
OF COURSE, I HAVE, MR. SANDERSON! YOU'RE A WONDERFUL ACTOR...


THANK YOU, MY DEAR! BUT NOT "MR. SANDERSON", PLEASE! CALL ME, PHILIP! BETTER YET, CALL ME, DARLING! YOU SEE, I LOVE YOU VERY MUCH, MY PRECIOUS ONE! I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU TO MARRY ME...
OH!... I... I'M VERY FLATTERED, MR. SANDERSON, BUT I DON'T THINK OF YOU IN THAT WAY AT ALL! YOU'RE... YOU'RE MORE LIKE A FATHER TO ME...

SUDDENLY SHE WAS LAUGHING TOO! THE WHOLE IDEA STRUCK HER AS RIDICULOUSLY FUNNY, AND MY HEART WAS SMASHED INTO A MILLION PIECES!
HA! HA! OH, I'M SORRY; BUT I CAN'T HELP IT! HA! HA! THE SIGHT OF YOU, TRYING TO MAKE LOVE LIKE A YOUNG MAN! HA! HA! FORGIVE ME! IF YOU COULD SEE YOURSELF...!
YOU! YOU LAUGH AT ME, TOO! STOP IT! STOP IT! BEFORE I, GO MAD: STOP IT!


I TORE AWAY, MY SOUL ENRAGED WITH FURY! THIS WAS THE END OF EVERYTHING FOR ME... THE END OF LOVE AND OF LIFE, AND OF A GREAT CAREER! WOMEN ONCE CRAWLED AT MY FEET, BEGGING FOR MY AFFECTION... NOW, THEY LAUGHED AT ME!
WHERE IS ALL MY GLORY NOW? I'D GIVE MY SOUL TO LOOK LIKE THAT AGAIN! MY VERY SOUL!
2

THE INSTANT I SAID THOSE WORDS THERE WAS A KNOCK AT MY DOOR! OPENING IT, I SAW A STRANGE-LOOKING OLD MAN...
YES? YES? WHAT IS IT? I'VE GOT NO TIME FOR PEDDLERS!
I'M NOT HERE TO ASK ANYTHING OF YOU, SIR! I WANT TO GIVE YOU SOMETHING...SOMETHING YOU'VE ASKED FOR!
WHAT THE BLAZES ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I ASKED FOR NOTHING... AT LEAST NOTHING THAT ANY HUMAN COULD GIVE ME! GO AWAY!
WELL PUT IT THIS WAY, THEN...I UNDERSTAND YOU WOULD LIKE TO PLAY PONCE DE LEON... ON THE STAGE, I MEAN...WHERE THE OLD MAN DISCOVERS THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH!
THE...FOUNTAIN...OF...YOUTH! AH! IF SUCH A THING ONLY EXISTED! I'D SELL MY SOUL TO THE DEVIL HIMSELF FOR IT!
YES...I KNOW... MR. SANDERSON, I HAVE SOME OF THE ACTUAL WATER FROM THAT FOUNTAIN!
WHAT? LISTEN, I'VE HEARD OF CRACKPOT WAYS TO SPONGE MONEY OFF OF ME, BUT THIS IS THE BEST YET! GET OUT AT ONCE, YOU OLD BEGGER!
I WANT NO MONEY! I'LL COLLECT MY REWARD... LATER! GOOD-BYE FOR NOW, MR. SANDERSON!
WHAT SORT OF IRONIC JOKE WAS THIS? SOME OF MY SO-CALLED FANS MUST HAVE SENT THIS TO ME AS A PRACTICAL JOKE! BUT I STARED AT THE JUG IN FASCINATION...
VERY FUNNY! VERY FUNNY INDEED, TO LAUGH AT MY MISERY THIS WAY! BUT...IF IT WERE ONLY TRUE! IF IT WERE REALLY WATER FROM THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH!
I'D LOOK LIKE THIS AGAIN! I'D HAVE THE WORLD AT MY FEET ONCE MORE! AND ROSALIE... ROSALIE WOULDN'T LAUGH AT ME ANY MORE! NO! SHE'D LOVE ME MADLY! MADLY! TOGETHER WE'D MAKE THE HANDSOMEST COUPLE IN THE WORLD!
I KNEW IT WAS SHEER MADNESS TO WISH FOR SUCH A MIRACLE! BUT WITHOUT REALIZING WHAT I WAS DOING, I LIFTED THE JUG AND DRANK DEEPLY OF THE CLEAR, COLD, WATER!
3

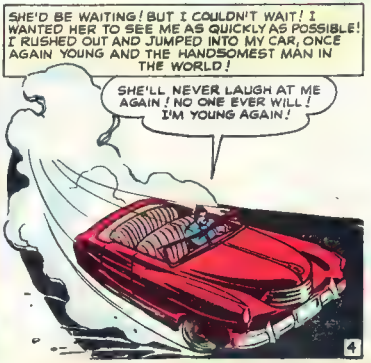
OH... I...I FEEL STRANGE... DIZZY! WHAT WAS IN THAT...? MY HEAD... IT'S SPINNING...THE VEINS IN MY TEMPLE... POUNDING LIKE FURY! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME? WHAT'S HAPPENING?

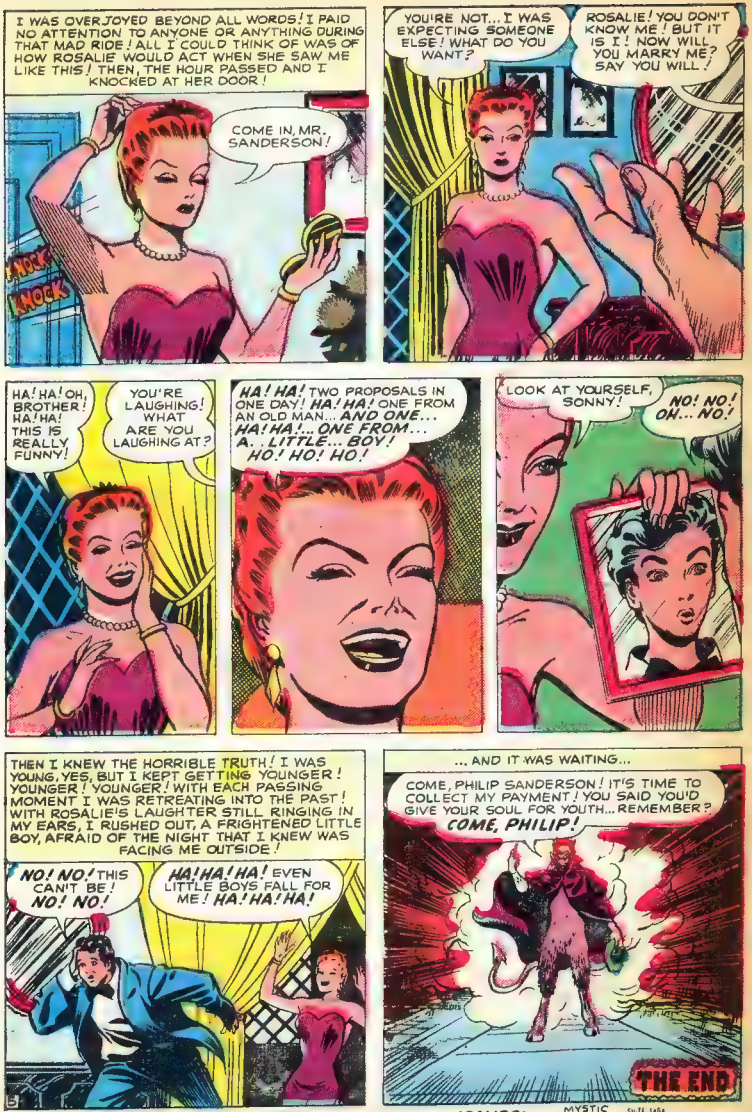
NOW... THE PAIN... IT'S ALL GONE! MY HEAD FEELS CLEARER... MY BODY STRONGER, MORE ALERT... NO LONGER TIRED! MY HANDS! LOOK AT MY HANDS! THEY ARE SMOOTH... YOUNG! YOUNG! A MIRROR! I MUST LOOK INTO A MIRROR!

I COULDN'T BELIEVE MY EYES AS I STARED WITH JOY AT THE REFLECTION THAT GREETED ME! I SAW THE FACE OF THE PHILIP SANDERSON OF TWENTY YEARS AGO!
IT'S HAPPENED! I'M YOUNG AGAIN! IT'S A MIRACLE... A MIRACLE! THAT WAS THE WATER FROM THE MAGIC FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH! IT'S MADE ME YOUNG... IT'S GIVEN ME BACK MY YOUTH!

I DIDN'T EVEN BOTHER TO THINK ABOUT THE OLD MAN ANY MORE! THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING TO DO NOW... CALL ROSALIE!
ROSALIE! OH, MY DEAR, I MUST SEE YOU AT ONCE! MAY I COME OVER? PLEASE?
ALL RIGHT, MR. SANDERSON... IF YOU'LL PROMISE TO ACT YOUR AGE!

I WILL! OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT! I'LL ACT MY AGE ALL RIGHT! I'LL LEAVE RIGHT AWAY! IT'LL TAKE ME AN HOUR TO GET THERE! WAIT FOR ME, PLEASE!
VERY WELL! I'LL BE WAITING...


SHE'D BE WAITING! BUT I COULDN'T WAIT! I WANTED HER TO SEE ME AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE! I RUSHED OUT AND JUMPED INTO MY CAR, ONCE AGAIN YOUNG AND THE HANDSOMEST MAN IN THE WORLD!
SHE'LL NEVER LAUGH AT ME AGAIN! NO ONE EVER WILL! I'M YOUNG AGAIN!


I WAS OVERJOYED BEYOND ALL WORDS! I PAID NO ATTENTION TO ANYONE OR ANYTHING DURING THAT MAD RIDE! ALL I COULD THINK OF WAS OF HOW ROSALIE WOULD ACT WHEN SHE SAW ME LIKE THIS! THEN, THE HOUR PASSED AND I KNOCKED AT HER DOOR!
COME IN, MR. SANDERSON!
KNOCK KNOCK
YOU'RE NOT... I WAS EXPECTING SOMEONE ELSE! WHAT DO YOU WANT?
ROSALIE! YOU DON'T KNOW ME! BUT IT IS I! NOW WILL YOU MARRY ME? SAY YOU WILL!
HA! HA! OH, BROTHER! HA! HA! THIS IS REALLY FUNNY!
YOU'RE LAUGHING! WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING AT?
HA! HA! TWO PROPOSALS IN ONE DAY! HA! HA! ONE FROM AN OLD MAN... AND ONE... HA! HA!... ONE FROM... A.. LITTLE... BOY! HO! HO! HO!
LOOK AT YOURSELF, SONNY!
NO! NO! OH... NO!
THEN I KNEW THE HORRIBLE TRUTH! I WAS YOUNG, YES, BUT I KEPT GETTING YOUNGER! YOUNGER! YOUNGER! WITH EACH PASSING MOMENT I WAS RETREATING INTO THE PAST! WITH ROSALIE'S LAUGHTER STILL RINGING IN MY EARS, I RUSHED OUT, A FRIGHTENED LITTLE BOY, AFRAID OF THE NIGHT THAT I KNEW WAS FACING ME OUTSIDE!
NO! NO! THIS CAN'T BE! NO! NO!
HA! HA! HA! EVEN LITTLE BOYS FALL FOR ME! HA! HA! HA!
... AND IT WAS WAITING...
COME, PHILIP SANDERSON! IT'S TIME TO COLLECT MY PAYMENT! YOU SAID YOU'D GIVE YOUR SOUL FOR YOUTH... REMEMBER? COME, PHILIP!
THE END

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Something special and very pretty! Imagine 12 sparkling Pseudo **Diamonds**, imported from Europe, set in a gorgeous Engagement and Wedding Ring Set! . . . **NATURAL GOLD** color, exquisite design. Your price for both—**4.89**. Yet they look like $750.00 and more! They sparkle a thousand rays of light! Enjoy a LIFETIME!

TRY AT OUR RISK!

You can't lose a penny. Try this gorgeous ETERNAL LOVE set at our risk. If still satisfied, we will return the price at once. Don't delay. Order a set today. Don't lose this opportunity. Remember—**BOTH** rings are yours for only **4.89**. MAIL THE COUPON NOW.

"THE ELDORADO"
Men's Distinctive Watch

"ELDORADO" — the watch for active men — last word in smart styling! Sparkling Pseudo Diamonds and Rubies set around the dial. Solid Gold color effect, chromed back. Unbreakable crystal. Luminous hands. Large sweep-Second Hand. Rugged case, built to take the "gott." Imported Swiss movement gives dependable service. **UNLIMITED GUARANTEE EXCLUSIVE OF PARTS**—never a penny for skilled labor cost! Formerly **24.95**. Special **SALE PRICE** only **8.99**—not a penny more. **10 DAY FREE TRIAL.** Prove our money back quick if not delighted. **RUSH COUPON NOW!**

Genuine DIAMOND Locket
TERRIFIC VALUE! While they last, you can have this glamorous **DIAMOND LOCKET** at an unbelievably low price! Rich, solid gold color effect, gorgeous design. Has special frames inside for two photographs of loved ones! Complete with chain, yours for . . . 2.95

Starlight FASHION Earrings
10 dazzling brilliants made to look like precious diamonds. They sparkle with a 1000 rays of light at parties, winning attention and admiration. Stylish starlight design. Fabulous Hollywood appearance. Add glamour to your ensemble! Satisfaction guaranteed or money back! Only 1.89

FREE
10 DAY TRIAL AT HOME

Pictures and words can't do justice to the wonderful quality of our merchandise. So we allow you **10 whole days** to try any article — right in your own home — without risk! **FULL PRICE BACK QUICK** if not thrilled! Write declined articles coupons and rush at once!

Pay price, plus postage, on delivery
Enjoy 10 days at **OUR** risk! It **pays to deal with this reliable company.**

CUT HAIR AT HOME
Complete 3-piece outfit for cutting hair at home. Set includes: **Hair Clippers, Tapered Barber Comb and Scissors,** and easy directions. Saves time and money for the whole family. Special low price for 3 pieces, all for 2.99

TINY NITE LAMP
Less than 4 inches tall! Has own powerful battery current—no plug-in needed. Press switch to light. Ideal for nursery, bedroom and during storms. Beautiful, jewel-like appearance. Complete with dainty shade and tiny bulb. 98c

Men's INITIAL Ring

Your own **INITIAL** in Raised Gold color effect firmly set on a **BLOOD RED** stone Flanked by 2 sparkling pseudo **DIAMONDS** imported from Europe. Ring made in 14 Karat Rolled Gold plate, fully fashioned & designed, rich in appearance

WEAR IT WITH PRIDE!
Enjoy a lifetime handsomely masculine so distinctive! Medium letter designed and send strip of paper for size. Bargain price **2.97**

AMAZING WEATHER "ROSE"

Place near window to see color changes like magic! **RED** alleged indicates rain, storms; **BLUE** — fair and sunny; **PURPLE**—changes coming! Amazes everyone! Beautiful, decorative. Flower pot given. **39c**

2 IN 1 CASE & CIGARET LIGHTER

Slip your **whole pack** into this sleek, handsome, sturdy combination case and built-in, Sure-Fire Lighter. No more fumbling around for cigarettes or matches! **Bargain** price 1.94

Ladies' SPORTEX Watch

Special!

A sturdy, accurate watch with special, jewel movement. Just ideal for active women and girls, nurses, teachers, sportswomen, typists, housewives, etc. Case is dainty yet so sturdy! Has luminous hands and numbers for night reading. So feminine and petite, yet so accurate too! **10-day MONEY BACK guarantee and conditional free service certificate. Bargain** price 7.97

BIG, POWERFUL SUPER FIELD GLASS

NOW you can own and enjoy Rocket's most **POWERFUL** and very **BEST FIELD GLASS** at a special **LOW PRICE!** Well made of rugged metals and has specially ground magnification lenses. Such **TERRIFIC POWER** you won't believe your eyes! Get an intimate view of nature . . . the sky at night . . . the birds, mountains, etc.

GO PLACES AND SEE THINGS!
Get a close-up of that neck-to-neck finish at the races, the flashing uppercut of the boxer, the quick pass down the football field, seashore scenes, etc. See what your neighbors are doing without being seen!
Special SALE price, only 2.94

Tear out and mail this COUPON

ROCKET WHOLESALE CO., Dept.99-100
131 West 33rd Street, New York 1, N. Y.

Gentlemen: Please rush the articles below. I will deposit price shown with mailman on arrival, plus postage. I will use and enjoy them for 10 days. Anytime I am not satisfied, you will return my money. (We prepay postage on cash orders).

NAME OF ARTICLE DESIRED	PRICE

NAME (Please print)_____

ADDRESS_____

TOWN_____ STATE_____

PLEASE! Send ring sizes on thin strip of paper wrapped around finger.

BLACKHEADS "PET HATE"

Say Men, Girls in Choosing Date

What a "black mark" is the blackhead . . . according to men and girls popular enough to be choosy about dates!

"Nobody's dreamboat!" "Nobody's date bait!" And that's not all that's said of those who are careless about blackheads. But blackheads ARE ugly! Blackheads ARE grimy! And they DON'T look good in close-ups!

So can you blame the fellow who says, "Sure, I meet lots of girls who look cute at first glance. But if, on that second glance, I see dingy blackheads, it's *good night!*"

Or can you blame the girl who confesses, "I hate to go out with a fellow who has blackheads. If he's careless about that you're sure he'll embarrass you in other ways, too!"

But you — are YOUR ears burning? Well, you've company and, sad to say, good company. There are lots of otherwise attractive fellows and girls who could date anyone they like if they'd only realize how offensive blackheads are . . . and how easily and quickly they could get rid of them . . . if they *want* to!

"He-Man" Often Guilty of Blackhead Crime

Take your "he-man" . . . super at track, games, sports of all kinds . . . who thinks that after just a shower he's ready to go anywhere! And won't the girls all admire his muscles!

Sure they would! But not many dance floors are set up for hurdle races! You can't show off your snappy left hook when only cokes are in the ring. The "he-man" who's also clean-cut, will get the breaks wherever he is.

Even Cute Girls Become Careless

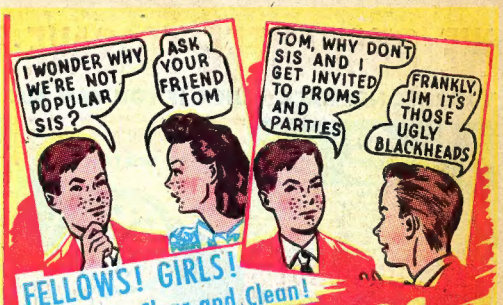
Easy, too easy, for a girl to think that if she has the latest in clothes and hair-do she needn't bother about blackheads. A little more make-up, she guesses, will take care of that. BUT MAKE-UP WON'T HIDE BLACKHEADS! Not unless it's plaster of paris, maybe! And even good make-up "slips" at a dance! So don't take chances, cute though you may be!

TAKE THESE TIPS TO BANISH BLACKHEADS

Keep skin clean by washing morning and night with warm, almost hot, water. Use good soap and plenty of it. And finish with cool water.

Extract every blackhead as soon as you see it — with a SAFE extractor. Don't use finger nails. Don't squeeze. That may mean infection, injured tissues, a marred skin.

Just be clean! Be quick! And be safe! That's easy! And that's ALL!


I WONDER WHY WE'RE NOT POPULAR SIS?
ASK YOUR FRIEND TOM
TOM, WHY DON'T SIS AND I GET INVITED TO PROMS AND PARTIES
FRANKLY, JIM IT'S THOSE UGLY BLACKHEADS

FELLOWS! GIRLS!
Keep Skin Clear and Clean!

UGLY BLACKHEADS OUT in Seconds with VACUTEX

NEW! SCIENTIFIC! VACUUM ACTION!

Amazing new VACUTEX is painless . . . safe . . . fast! In seconds you are rid of those ugly blackheads that clog the pores . . . make your skin look grimy and dingy . . . give others such a wrong impression of you. VACUTEX creates a gentle vacuum pressure around the blackhead and extracts it — quickly! — without injury to tender skin tissues. Keep skin always clear this new scientific way. Without painful squeezing! Without dangerous infection from germy fingers! Just place VACUTEX over blackhead and draw back extractor. Blackhead's out! Simple! But you'll be delighted by your instantly improved appearance. Others will notice your clearer, cleaner skin! Try VACUTEX — now!

RUSH COUPON NOW!

10 DAY TRIAL OFFER

Don't send a penny. Mail coupon and pay postman only $1.00 plus postage. Or save all postage by enclosing $1.00 with guarantee coupon. If not thrilled to be rid of embarrassing hated blackheads this new quick way — just return VACUTEX in 10 days and get $1 back. Order today!

No Squeezing
No Infection
No Injury
to Skin
Tissues!

Just place VACUTEX over blackhead — release extractor — and blackhead's out!

10 DAY TRIAL GUARANTEE

BALLCO PRODUCTS COMPANY, Dept. 4005
19 West 44th St., New York 18, N. Y.

☐ Enclosed find $1.00. Send me VACUTEX postpaid.
☐ Ship C.O.D. I will pay postman $1.00 plus postage.

My dollar will be refunded if I am not delighted.

NAME_____

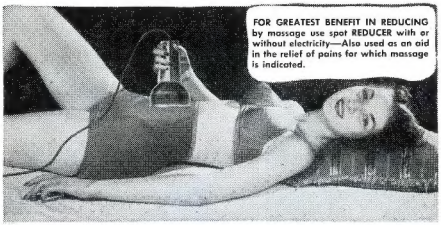
ADDRESS_____

SORRY NO C.O.D. OUTSIDE OF U.S.A.

REDUCE KEEP SLIM AT HOME WITH RELAXING, SOOTHING MASSAGE!

ELECTRIC SPOT REDUCER

TAKE POUNDS OFF— ...E SLIM



FOR GREATEST BENEFIT IN REDUCING by massage use spot REDUCER with or without electricity—Also used as an aid in the relief of pains for which massage is indicated.

TAKE OFF UGLY FAT!

Don't Stay FAT— You Can LOSE POUNDS and INCHES SAFELY without risking HEALTH

Take pounds off—keep slim and trim with Spot Reducer! Remarkable new invention which uses one of the most effective reducing methods employed by masseurs and turkish baths—MASSAGE!

With the SPOT REDUCER you can now enjoy the benefits of RELAXING, SOOTHING massage in the privacy of your own home! Simple to use—just plug in, grasp handle and apply over most any part of the body—stomach, hips, chest, neck, thighs, arms, buttocks, etc. The relaxing, soothing massage breaks down FATTY TISSUES, tones the muscles and flesh, and the increased awakened blood circulation carries away waste fat—helps you regain and keep a firmer and more GRACEFUL FIGURE!

YOUR OWN PRIVATE MASSEUR AT HOME

When you use the Spot Reducer, it's almost like having your own private masseur at home. It's fun reducing this way! It not only helps you reduce and keep slim —but also aids in the relief of those types of aches and pains—and tired nerves that can be helped by massage! The Spot Reducer is handsomely made of light weight aluminum and rubber and truly a beautiful invention you will be thankful you own. AC 110 volts.

UL UNDERWRITERS LABORATORY APPROVED

...Y THE SPOT REDUCER 10 DAYS FREE IN YOUR OWN HOME!

Mail this coupon with only $1 for your Spot Reducer on approval. Pay postman $8.95 plus delivery—or send $9.95 (full price) and we ship postage prepaid. Use it for ten days in your own home. Then if not delighted return Spot Reducer for full purchase price refund. Don't delay! You have nothing to lose—except ugly, embarrassing, undesirable pounds of FAT. MAIL COUPON now!

ALSO USE IT FOR ACHES AND PAINS

CAN'T SLEEP: Relax with electric Spot Reducer. See how soothing its gentle massage can be. Helps you sleep when massage can be of benefit.

MUSCULAR ACHES: A handy helper for transient relief of discomforts that can be aided by gentle, relaxing massage.

USED BY EXPERTS: Thousands have lost weight this way—in hips, abdomen, legs, arms, necks, buttocks, etc. The same method used by stage, screen and radio personalities and leading reducing salons. The Spot Reducer can be used in your spare time, in the privacy of your own room.

ORDER IT TODAY!

MAIL THIS COUPON NOW!

SPOT REDUCER CO., Dept. E-306
318 MARKET ST., NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

Please send me the Spot Reducer for 10-day trial period. I enclose $1. Upon arrival I will pay postman only $8.95 plus postage and handling. If not delighted I may return SPOT REDUCER within 10 days for prompt refund of full purchase price.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

☐ SAVE POSTAGE—check here if you enclose $9.95 with coupon. We pay all postage and handling charges. Same money-back guarantee applies.

LOSE WEIGHT OR MONEY BACK

GIVEN!

ACT NOW
MAIL COUPON!

BOYS! GIRLS! LADIES! MEN! WE GIVE YOU CASH OR PREMIUMS!

56th Year

WE ARE RELIABLE!

Candid Cameras with Carrying Cases, Radios (sent postage paid). Mail coupon to start.

OUR 56th YEAR

Boys! Girls! Ladies! Men!

Lovable Dolls over 15" high, Cub Fishing Outfits, Genuine 22 Cal. Rifles, Daisy Air Rifles (sent postage paid). Give pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE sold at 25c a box (with picture) and remit per catalog sent with order to start. It's fun! Easy! We trust you! Begin at once!

ACT NOW 56th YR.

BE FIRST

Boys-Girls Bicycles (sent express charges collect). Mail coupon to start.

NO MONEY NOW

Pocket Wa... Wrist Wat... Baseballs, (sent postage p... Other Premium... Cash easily y... To start, m... coupon for CLOVERINE Br... SALVE and Pict... easily sold to friends, relatives, neighbors at 25c a box (with picture).

YOUR CHA...

OUR 56th YEAR

LOOK!

START TODAY!

Ukuleles, ...elry, ... (sent ... paid). ... coupon

Footballs, Basketballs (sent postage paid). Mail coupon to start.

BIG CATALOG!

Alarm Clocks, Pen and Pencil Sets, Bibles, Billfolds, Tea Aprons, Roller Skates, Blankets, Aluminum Ware, Record Players, Movie Machines (sent postage paid). Rush coupon to start!

ACT NOW

WE ARE RELIABLE

JIM and BETTY FIND A NEW "TREASURE"

I'M TIRED OF PLAYING PIRATES! WE NEVER FIND ANY TREASURE ANYWAY-

ME TOO!

HI, KIDS! LOOKIT TH'SWELL NEW WATCH I EARNED, SELLING WHITE CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE!

-AN' I'M WORKING FOR A BIKE NOW!

SAY, BETTY, THAT BEATS DIGGING FOR PIRATE TREASURE! LET'S SEND IN THOSE COUPONS!

A FEW DAYS LATER, JIM AND BETTY ARE BUSY SELLING WHITE CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE

GOLLY! THIS SALVE SURE SELLS FAST! NOW LETS CALL ON MRS. BROWN-

IT'S FUN!

--AND WITH EACH PURCHASE OF WHITE CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE, YOU GET A BEAUTIFUL ART PICTURE!

GEE! SHE BOUGHT 2 BOXES! YOU'LL HAVE YOUR DOLL IN NO TIME, BETTY-

- AND YOU'LL SOON HAVE YOUR FOOTBALL, JIM-

YES, KIDS, IT'S EASY TO EARN THESE PREMIUMS! TO START, JUST MAIL IN THIS COUPON--

MAIL NOW!

Wilson Chem. Co. Dept.148-BY, Tyrone, Pa. Date.....

Gentlemen:- Please send me on trial 13 colorful art pictures with 13 boxes of White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE to sell at 25c a box (with picture.) I will remit amount asked within 30 days, select a Premium or keep Cash Commission as explained under Premium wanted in catalog sent with order, postage paid to start.

Name..... Age.....

St..... RD..... Box.....

Town..... Zone No..... State.....

PRINT LAST NAME HERE

Paste coupon on postal card or mail in envelope today